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THE PLAYGROUND AT ETON COLLEGE.



THE SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY NEAR WINDSOR.



CAMBRIDGE TERRACE, WINDSOR.

FLOODS IN THE THAMES VALLEY AT WINDSOR AND ETON.



THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

A CLEAR stage and no favour is not a bad cry to raise in certain cases. But it is a cry suited, in our opinion, for circumstances widely different from those under which the existing Ministry now comes before the people of the realm at the opening of a new Session. Quite apart from fear or favour of the lower kinds, it cannot be indifferent to any Liberal politician which combatant—supposing there is a set battle—wins. A Liberal must wish success to Liberals; for even in politics blood is thicker than water, and that, so long as we are ages short of the millennium, is no trifl, and is a very different thing from the play of party spirit. But, besides that, we—that is, the Liberal part of the people of Great Britain—are bound by ties of gratitude to the present Ministry for what they have already done. True, they have not done enough. But, who has? Again, they have not been as true to their programme of economy as some of us expected they would be; but in these days of widely ramifying political literature, and immensely discordant cries from diverse but considerable sections of public opinion, they would have been more or less than human if they had shown themselves utterly unmoved by the contrary winds and the queer side-currents which have disturbed their course. Meantime, what the Gladstone Ministry has actually accomplished, while retaining its power, and, on the whole, its grip of popular affection, is very remarkable. Since the days of the first Reform Bill no Minister—not even Sir Robert Peel, much as he did at one stroke—has done so much of the better work that awaited doing as Mr. Gladstone. The list of the good works of this Liberal Ministry has been rehearsed till we may well be weary of it, and it shall not here be rehearsed again. Household Suffrage was, in truth, Mr. Gladstone's child, not Mr. Disraeli's. True, the Liberal measure, on which the Tories, with the sinister aid of Mr. Lowe, jockeyed Mr. Disraeli into power, was much more "moderate" than the one which the latter afterwards "educated" his party into passing. But, for all this, the change was Mr. Gladstone's, and not that of "the false English nobles, with their Jew," as a living poet called it. It was like the child which St. Christopher lifted and carried on his back over the river in this one respect, that it waxed bigger and heavier as the bearer of it forded the stream. Heaven forbid that we should compare Mr. Disraeli to St. Christopher!—and the parallel, or rather the remote comparison, stops at that one point—that the bearer of the babe took up a mightier burden than he would have thought to carry if he had consulted only his own choice, and that the strength that carried him over the torrent was in the burden he bore, and not in himself. On the other hand, the measures carried by the Gladstone Ministry have all been stamped with the mint-mark of Liberalism. They belong to our programme. They bear our own name. They have the family likeness. They are nobody's stolen clothes. You may read in their physiognomy unmistakable "open secret" of Liberalism—namely, the leaving of mere privilege behind, and the aiming at the welfare of the citizens by removing all unjust restrictions from their path.

No credit is due to any member of the Opposition, and certainly none to its leader in the House of Commons, who has himself been Premier, for any forbearance (if that word must be used) which may have been shown in what has been said upon the American question—for we scarcely like yet to call it the American difficulty. If any Conservative member of either House deserves a word of special recognition for moderation of tone it is, perhaps, Lord Derby. He is only nominally a Conservative, and can never be truly opposed to any Liberal Government. As for the real Conservatives, it would have been so specially disgraceful—so meanly forgetful of the past policy of the party in most American matters—for them to have treated this as in any way a party question, that we were entitled to expect from them the uttermost farthing of patriotic defence to the interests of the nation and wise abstinen from unnecessary and fruitless fault-finding. In any case, however, we have all learned to expect English politicians to forget party when critical questions arise between England and other nations; and the able speech of Mr. Gladstone, on Wednesday evening, will do something more, if that were necessary, to unite men of all shades of politics in an effort to turn this rather awkward corner.

As to the question itself, although we must be sorry, like other people, that some very hard words have been used by the American press in the matter, we cannot bring ourselves to look upon it with any serious apprehension. It is early days for America to be talking of the "point of the bayonet"; but, if she is a little ill-mannered, this nation can spare a trifle from its ancient dignity in order to give her an indirect lesson—and through her, we hope, the whole world. The gravity of the case thus far really lies, not in any ground for apprehension that the absurd claims of our cousins should be admitted—still less that we shall be troubled with "the point of the bayonet"; but in the way in which these sudden heats of abuse and menace across the Atlantic bring home to us the fact that the nation on which so much depends in the future has in her midst such strong and active elements of savagery and bluster. It has been observed that America is the spoilt child of diplomacy, the meaning being that she has been allowed to take liberties which no other nation takes. But, at this present moment, we must not criticise the case too nearly. We must treat the free utterance of a free public opinion in America as liberally as we treat similar utterances in our own country; we must not forget that we and the citizens of the United States all read the same language, so that they, on their part, know every harsh or ill-advised

word we utter—a condition which, of course, does not arise in any of our differences with Continental States. One thing we are beforehand sure of—namely, that neither with our own Government nor with any arbitrator, under any circumstances, would any but substantive official communications of feeling and intention be allowed to carry weight.

One or two of the remarks made by Mr. Disraeli in his very clever speech on the Royal Message show, once more, that he is a bad hand at taking the measure of any large political situation, and that he has not yet mastered the principles by which political life in this country will henceforth tend to be governed. Speaking of that portion of the people which holds the franchise as being "a minority," he went on to say that he believed it was "a Conservative minority," and that we should soon have that made plain to us. The author of "Vivian Grey" is mistaken. The errors of the Government have undoubtedly told against them, and there is, besides, some amount of positive reaction; but, though it is conceivable that a Tory Ministry may again be in power some day—for such things are inevitable under a regimen of party Government—Mr. Disraeli may depend upon it that the days of Conservative policy, in any sense the country gentlemen would care about, are over in this country for good and all. He once took credit for having educated his party. The honourable gentleman is mistaken: it is the Liberal party who have educated both him and them. His view of that subject is a case of that peculiar kind of craft which Bacon calls "the turning of the cake in the pan."

The other false point made by the Conservative leader occurred in a passage brilliant enough to deserve having been uttered in a better cause. These were the words:—"Although," said Mr. Disraeli, addressing the Speaker, "a considerable interval has elapsed since we had the honour of seeing you in that chair, the time appears to me to have passed very rapidly, and not to have exercised that influence of comparative oblivion over our controversies which, I think, is highly salutary and beneficial. I attribute this, in a great degree, to the new system adopted by her Majesty's Ministers of vindicating their characters and policy during the recess. We have really no time to forget anything. Ministers seem to have lived in a blaze of apologies for the last six months. I must protest against this new system. It does not permit us to return to our labours with that renovated physical energy we were used to in the old days, and with our mental faculties refreshed. I think for Ministerial indignation there is no place more fitting than the floor of this House." The suppressed irony of "a blaze of apology," moulded, as the expression is, upon the commonplace of "a blaze of triumph," is in Mr. Disraeli's best manner; but he ought by this time to have discovered that it is a necessary consequence of a free press and of some of the other obvious conditions of our politics, that "the floor of this House" is not, and never again can be, a sufficing arena for explanations between the Government and the people. There is, indeed, something lugubrious latent in the passage, though Mr. Disraeli was too ingenious a man to allow the real word to uncover itself. "Why do you spoil our game for us by 'apologies' to the people at large? Why don't you let us take you and them by surprise 'in the House,' in the old, orthodox way?" Mr. Disraeli will find that it will in future be a fixed law in England that the Government shall make "apologies" out of "this House" when the people to whom its members are responsible have, through the press and otherwise, criticised its acts during the Session in such a way as to demand explanation in order to the establishment of a cordial understanding.

No reference is made in the Queen's Message to any contemplated reductions of taxation, nor is there even the usual phrase about "due regard to economy" in the framing of the Estimates. There may be good reasons for not promising, or seeming to promise, any remission of either direct or indirect taxes; but we may as well bear in mind that there is a good deal of the conjuror about Mr. Lowe. He delights in clever surprises, and his experience as Chancellor of the Exchequer, unless he has woefully misread it, must have done something to teach him reticence.

The programme of the Session—including all the matters in the Government list and those of private members—can hardly be said to contain a single thing that was not expected, and there are not many upon which the nation at large has not made up its mind to have effective legislation at once. The Ballot, the Licensing Laws, Education, Mining Regulations—the Government knows what the nation expects in these and other matters; and the latter is not wholly in the dark as to what it will get. The tone of Ministers upon the Sir R. Collier question is so confident as almost to raise hopes that they may come out of the mess better than was expected.

THE THAMES IN FLOOD.

WHEN the alterations were made at the Windsor Lock it was generally expected that the additional flow given to the water would have the effect of preventing any further floods such as was witnessed in the Thame Valley in the neighbourhood of Windsor just three years ago. This expectation has, however, only been partly realised, inasmuch as the line of the Thame Valley has again been flooded, both below and above the town. During the night of Saturday, Jan. 27, the waters of the river rose rapidly, owing to the vast quantity of rain which had recently fallen, and the flooded state of the west country. The water which had accumulated in the Henley and Oxford districts had been for the previous two or three days steadily flowing eastwards, the result being an extensive inundation of the lower parts of Windsor and Eton. The view of the inundated country from the viaduct of the Great Western Railway or from the North Terrace of Windsor Castle was very striking. The western suburb of Eton was inundated, the Brocas and South Meadow being covered, the water reaching to the back gardens of the houses in High-street, and stretching away to Dr. Hayne's concert-

room, near Keates-lane. Tolladay's, Goodman's, and Salter's boat-houses on the Eton shore were washed by the flood, and much of the Eton College playing-fields was submerged. On the south side of the Thames the flood spread over the "Goswells" and advanced to the foot of Cambridge terrace. The water covered the road and entered some of the houses, a punt having to be used to reach the flooded domes and to keep up communication. The gasworks and neighbouring houses were quite surrounded, and all communication cut off, except by boat, the inmates being put to considerable inconvenience by the depth of the water around their habitations. The water extended to the rear of the houses on the north side of Oxford-road, nearly as far as Gardner-cottages, and eastwards to the back gardens in Thame-street. The Home Park, opposite the North Terrace of Windsor Castle, was partly submerged, while a vast quantity of water was over the land between Maidenhead and Windsor. Much of the country between Windsor and Chertsey was also flooded. On Monday, Jan. 29, the waters of the Thames were still upon the rise, and rain fell occasionally during the day. In Eton many of the cellars of the houses were flooded, the town being a complete island. The head of the "Cobbler" was only three inches above the surface of the stream, and there was every appearance of an inundation. The cessation of the heavy rains and the fine days of the early part of the week have, however, happily abated the flood. The river has gone down eighteen inches, and is once more nearly within its boundary.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

M. Casimir Perier, Minister of the Interior, having resigned in consequence of the refusal of the Assembly to remove to Paris, M. Lefranc, formerly Minister of Commerce, has been appointed to succeed him; M. Gouraud, who was to have represented France in Rome, taking the portfolio of Commerce.

An important meeting of the Republican Left was held in Paris on Sunday—M. Oscar Lafayette in the chair. A long debate ensued upon the various projects afloat for liberating French territory from German occupation. M. Jules Favre took a prominent part in the discussion, and the meeting appointed a committee to elaborate a scheme for the liberation of the country. The Government remains aloof from the voluntary subscription organised for the liberation of the territory. No one of the numerous projects submitted to the Government for the payment of the three milliards has yet been taken into serious consideration. Mr. Holder, a merchant of English origin at Rheims, has subscribed 1,000,000 francs towards paying off the war indemnity. Four other inhabitants at Rheims have subscribed 100,000 francs.

The Due d'Aumale has been elected president of the thirteenth bureau by sixteen votes against five. M. Dampierre, a Legitimist, has been nominated vice-president of the bureau.

The committee appointed to consider the question of restoring their property to the Orleans Princes have approved the Government proposal for its restitution. A special telegram from our Paris correspondent states that the Government received permission to prosecute certain newspapers which have attacked the Commission of Pardons, and contradicts the report that the Comte de Paris has written to the Comte de Chambord.

One of the Emperor Napoleon's senators, M. Janyer de la Motte, who was also a prefect, is to be tried at Rouen, on the 26th inst., for forgery and embezzlement.

An important religious movement has been begun in Paris. The Ultramontanism of the new Archbishop of the metropolitan diocese has produced a serious schism among the Paris clergy. M. Michaud, the Vicar of the Madeleine, who is an honorary Canon of Châlons, in a letter to the Archbishop, resigns all his ecclesiastical preferments. The reason he gives for this step is that the Archbishop requires the clergy, not only publicly to profess belief in the dogma of the Pope's infallibility, but to believe it sincerely in their hearts. M. Michaud declares open war against the Archbishop, and directly defies the excommunication which he expects will be launched against him. He cares nothing for the scandal which he knows his protest will cause. He will remain a priest and a Catholic; but a Catholic believing with regard to Jesus Christ what has been everywhere, always, and by everybody believed, and not in belief decreed by a man in Rome just as fallible as himself. He acts not merely on his own account, but for a party in the Church, and announces that a committee has been formed in connection with Russian, German, English, Italian, and Spanish committees, and that, as soon as sufficient funds are collected, churches will be opened independent of the Ultramontane Episcopacy.

SWITZERLAND.

The French authorities having passed Communists who were sentenced to expulsion from France on to Swiss territory, the Federal Council has instructed the Swiss representative at Versailles to protest against such a proceeding, as being an infringement of the law of nations.

SPAIN.

Parties are busily engaged in electioneering, and manifestoes of all sorts are being issued daily. The prospects of the Radicals are said to be less favourable than at first; but that is probably the result of the powerful influence the Government always brings to bear on elections in Spain.

Two thousand troops—the number asked for by the Captain-General of the island as being a sufficient reinforcement to crush out the revolt before the close of the spring—have been dispatched to Cuba.

GERMANY.

Cardinal Antonelli having announced to the Bishop of Strasbourg that the Papal authorities no longer regard the Concordat of 1801 as valid, the German Government has expressed a different view; and negotiations will be opened to rearrange the relations between Church and State in the two lost provinces of France.

Professors Hilgers, Knodt, Reusch, and Langen, of Bonn, have received an ultimatum from the Archbishop of Cologne ordering them, on pain of excommunication, to subscribe to the dogma of infallibility.

THE UNITED STATES.

A Cabinet Council was held at Washington, on Tuesday, to discuss the objections made by England to the claims put forward by America for indirect damages caused by the proceedings of the Alabama. It is stated that a unanimous feeling was expressed to adhere to the position the United States Government has assumed. Senator Edmunds, on Tuesday, asked for information in Congress respecting the threatened revocation of the Washington Treaty by Great Britain, and declared that if it were repudiated no more treatise ought to be made with a nation so ready to revoke them. The Queen's Speech, owing to the moderation of its tone, has been well received in New York. The *New York Herald* has adopted a warlike tone, and thrown out a significant allusion to the Irish Americans. The *New York Tribune* considers that the steadiness of the funds is proof that the public do not feel much agitated by the "newspaper clamour." The *World* thinks the indirect claims ought to be withdrawn if the British Commissioners believed they were not to be made; but that, if otherwise, they ought to be maintained.

CANADA.

Intense excitement prevails in the province of Manitoba, the Government having carried a resolution condemning the interference of Ontario in the matter of Scott's murder, the Premier declaring that it was no murder, and that Riel was a hero.

INDIA.

A somewhat mysterious, and decidedly painful, affair has occurred in India. A week or two ago it was announced that "the

"Kookas" had attacked a military post and killed some of the soldiers. Then it was stated that the "insurrection" had been put down; but no explanation was given as to who the "Kookas" were, or why they had rebelled. These points are still left in obscurity; but there is no doubt about the fact that "the Kookas" have been severely punished. Advices from Calcutta, dated the 3rd inst., say:—"After the complete suppression of the mutiny Deputy Commissioner Cowan selected fifty men to be shot. Upon the scene of execution one broke away, ran at Mr. Cowan, and was cut down. The others were blown from guns, on Deputy Commissioner Cowan's own responsibility. Mr. Forsyth, the Commissioner at Umballa, executed sixteen more. The whole band, which never numbered over 300, has been literally hunted down; sixty-six men and two women, terrified, half famished, and twenty-nine of them wounded, submitted in the end to four men. The whole transaction occurred within forty-eight hours, and in the neighbourhood of our fine force of 15,000 men of all arms at Delhi camp." A telegram, dated Wednesday, says that:—"Deputy Commissioner Cowan has been suspended by the Government, pending inquiry. The executions were begun without previous trials. In the midst of them arrived from Commissioner Forsyth enjoining trial of the prisoners; forty-nine had at that time been put to death. Thirty remained alive and were tried, and sixteen were executed with the sanction of the Commissioner. This appears to be the extent of Mr. Forsyth's action in the business. In addition to those executed two other prisoners were transported, and ten remain in custody."

A despatch from General Bourchier, dated the 3rd inst., announces that he was approaching Poibay, the stronghold of the Looshais. He had crossed a bridge 6000 ft. high. There had been no further hostilities, and he hoped to reach the village on the following day.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Several packages of diamonds have arrived from the Cape in the last mail-steamer. The yield in the colony still continues to be large. At the fields the diggers had taken the law into their own hands, and burnt down some canteens, the proprietors of which were accused of purchasing stolen diamonds from the natives.

FESTIVITIES IN BERLIN.

PRINCE ARTHUR has been enjoying a round of gaieties in Berlin. A correspondent writes from the Prussian capital on the 1st inst.:—"The second half of last week was almost entirely devoted to courtly and other public festivities. To begin with, there was an evening entertainment at the schloss, with about 2000 of the official world present, the gentlemen in their gala uniforms, civil and military; the ladies in dresses and jewellery of a costliness hitherto little known here, and betraying a determined desire to play off original Berlin fashions against the hitherto absolute dominion of Parisian taste. A magnificent concert, mostly vocal, was offered to the guests of the Emperor, Madame Lucca singing the solos, and the chorus of the Opera executing the concerted pieces, chiefly taken from compositions of Wagner, as the pre-eminent German composer of the present time. The refreshments, as is usual at Court festivities here, were but scanty—tea and iced champagne and cakes, and the like; but there is one beverage for which the Schloss is famous of old, and which a foreign visitor should never miss—I mean the punch—a punch made with rum, and said to have been introduced by the English who frequented the Court of King Frederick I. and his learned Queen Charlotte. The first of the subscription balls, at which the Court is regularly present, followed. Those who want to attend these balls—the most splendid in Berlin—have to apply for admission at the Chamberlain's office, where their claims to associate with Royalty are examined. The fee for admission is only half a guinea, so as not to exclude such officials of the Government as can afford no more. This price oddly contrasts with that which was paid merely to look on from seats in the upper boxes. These tickets were furtively retailed by the servants of the Royal Opera, where the balls are held. The price rose in the course of the evening to three guineas. The tickets are mostly bought by women who want to have a first peep at the fashion of the season. On this occasion sky-blue bodies with salmon-coloured skirts took the lead; a combination of two different hues of rose-colour followed next. The leading ladies of the Court itself, however, wore white with gold. A very striking feature of the new fashion consisted, besides, in really enormous bunches of artificial flowers, attached, not to the front of the dress but to quite an opposite part, and attached in such a position as to afflict the mind with painful thoughts as to how the ladies would contrive to sit down. The most racy entertainment was, however, offered to the Berlin public the other night at the Royal Opera, where the "Marriage of Figaro" exercised its wonted charm. Both Madame Lucca and Madame Mallinger appeared in it. I suppose most of your readers know something of the jealousy which broke out between these two ladies on the occasion of their rival performance of Gounod's "Margaret," and of the fierce struggle between their respective adherents and admirers. Well, things have now come to a crisis. The battle of disapprobation and applause increased in fierceness from act to act, and at last it became impossible to carry on the performance. Madame Lucca then boldly stepped forward to the footlights, and rated the public in good set terms. She told them that if they went on in that style she would leave off singing for them altogether. In the meantime Madame Mallinger, less courageous, had sunk into a chair, and was shedding floods of tears. The public at last became quiet, and the performance was brought to an end. But then the altercations recommenced outside the house, and the Emperor, who was passing, witnessed the tumult, and gave orders to the police to clear the streets. Herr von Huelsen, the Superintendent of the Royal Theatres, has since received the resignation of both the ladies. He is in a nice fix, for evidently they want to compel him to choose between them. It remains to be seen what course he will take. A ball given by the Crown Prince has succeeded the festivities already referred to. This ball also took place in the Schloss. The invitations proceeded this time from the Crown Prince, and the object was to gather together other classes of society—artists, literary men, and the like. It appears that entertainments given in the name of the Heir to the Throne, as well as of its occupant, are to become a regular feature of the season in Berlin. This is a kind of compromise between the aristocratic structure of society, which belongs to the past, and the democratic, which is destined to take its place in the future. Prince Arthur, it was generally noticed, entered into the spirit of this entertainment with much zest, and danced with tremendous vigour. There was a large crowd of the curious outside the Schloss in the Schloss Platz and the Lustgarten, and the festivities were kept up with infinite spirit till the small hours.

A soupçon of politics gives a farewell relish to this Berlin correspondent's entertaining letter:—"Prince Bismarck seems to find special delight in rushing as often as possible into the contest which is raging in the Landtag between the Ultramontane party on the one side, and the rest of the House on the other, in connection with the votes of supply for the department of Public Worship and Education. He has now thrown off all restraint, and openly calls the Catholic party the enemy of the State, or, to use his own expression, 'An army on a war footing for fighting the Prussian Monarchy.' Of course, he was quite right in stigmatizing the complaints of the Catholics, that they do not get their fair share of public offices, as insincere, ridiculous, and incompatible with constitutional government. But it was certainly overshooting the mark to deny to the Catholics, or rather to the Ultramontane party among them, the right to form a Parliamentary party, and to go to the constituencies with the cry of 'Save the Church!' All the attempts of the Catholic party to carry amendments in the Estimates were, of course, defeated, amidst the hilarity of the House. Prince Bismarck has come out of the easy fight more popular than ever, especially with the Jews,

whom he described in one of his speeches as particularly fitted for political administration. It is known that on a former and more private occasion he did not even shrink from asserting that an Israelite would make the best Minister of Public Worship and Education for Prussia. Such a Minister would alone, he maintained, be really impartial."

THE CAPITALS OF ITALY.

Rome, Jan. 26.
EIGHT days passed between the three cities which, within seven years, have in turn been the capital of Italy are suggestive of many reflections. To describe the state of each one of them in a word, it may be said that Turin is flourishing, Florence tranquil, and Rome restless. The Piedmontese city, long since recovered from the shock and throes of decapitalisation, shows all its old spirit and energy. To the foreigner Turin, even in its best days, has always seemed a dull place, and in that respect, especially in the dreary, snowy, sloppy weather which has lately prevailed there, it has undergone no change. But it affords abundant evidences of prosperity, in its long lines of newly-built and well-inhabited houses, in the bustle and animation of its streets, in the wealth displayed in the shops of the jewellers and silk merchants on the Piazza di Castello. The Turinese have learnt from adversity the wisdom of helping themselves, and have found that such self-reliance amply compensates the withdrawal of Court and capital. They are ever ready to profit by a chance. It was suggested that Turin, by its situation between important places of growth in Northern Italy, between the consumers in France and other countries and the great port of Genoa (by far the first commercial port in Italy), is admirably adapted to become the great silk dépôt, a central store and market for that valuable product. Immediately the idea was broached the syndic came forward with the most liberal promises of encouragement and aid. If Florence had shown the same promptitude, energy, and liberality as her Piedmontese sister, she would long ago have had a supply of wholesome water and a proper system of drainage. When she first was capital of Italy, more than one acceptable scheme was submitted for bringing fresh water to her parched streets and environs; but the apprehension that the persons who proposed to do this useful work would themselves gain something by it seems always to have prevented acceptance.

Florence is now in the situation Turin was, but is far from having the same causes of complaint. Turin had been encouraged to believe that it would continue the capital of Italy until Rome should be obtained to supply its place, when suddenly it found itself despoiled of the position to which no other city then belonging to the Italian Crown had a tithe of its claim. There was some excuse for its discontent and revolt. Florence, on the other hand, was promoted to be the chief city of the kingdom with the express understanding that the dignity was only to be temporary. But then there seemed little probability that France would be compelled to abandon her support of the Pope, and Florence might look forward to a long lease. The extent to which building was carried, and the public improvements made (although these did not comprise some of the most really essential), seem to prove that she did so. After only two or three years' absence from Florence, one is struck by all that the city has gained; by the improvement in the Piazza della Signoria, by the handsome houses in the new quarter of the Maglio, now becoming fashionable and well inhabited; by the Lung' Arno Guicciardini—a sort of Arno Embankment, where some offensive old tenements that overhung the water and threatened to sink into the mud have been replaced by a row of good houses, with pleasant gardens in front; and, above all, by the magnificent promenade which extends round a great part of Florence, outside the walls, and is known, from its undulating character, as the Colli, or the Hills. It commands the most charming views, and is on a scale worthy of the largest capitals in Europe, not one of which possesses anything of the kind, or that can at all compare with it. It will entirely supplant the flat and uninteresting Cascine, and, indeed, has already done so, although not yet quite quite. Florence, in short, has gained a great deal during the last five or six years, and does not seem to have lost, in consequence of the improvements made, any of its old artistic and archaeological attractions.

The Florentines seem to have submitted with a very good grace to be shorn of their temporary glory. One hears no complaints except from hotel and shop-keepers, who, of course, have suffered. As to the higher class of traders, they do not find much falling off, and declare that Rome has as yet by no means supplanted Florence as a commercial centre. Rents must fall much more than they have hitherto done, but Italy is described as generally prosperous, and it is to be supposed that the population of a pleasant, well-situated city like Florence, with railways diverging from it in various directions, will increase from natural causes. If the Florentines feel any depression by reason of their reduction to the second rank, they have tact enough not to show it. Both native and foreign residents in Florence seem to think that, socially speaking, the change of capital has been an advantage to the city. People are said to have become more sociable, to have been brought more together, and various Tuscan magnates, who had kept their doors inhospitably closed for years, as if to spite the Piedmontese and foreign immigrants of 1865, have now reopened them to the sound of soft music, and have dispatched numerous invitations to festive gatherings. One hears little or nothing of politics in Florence, and the only local news I have heard worth recording was that Pazzi, the sculptor, who, just as Florence became the capital of Italy, reared upon the Piazza Santa Croce his colossal statue of Dante, is now engaged upon one of Savonarola, as yet far from complete, but which, judging from the model, will be no unworthy companion to that of the great poet. One would suppose that the city of Florence might find an appropriate place for this new work on the Piazza San Marco, where Savonarola preached, or on that of the Signoria, where he suffered. The former would probably be the most suitable position, there being already so much ancient and modern sculpture around the Palazzo Vecchio; but the place, it appears, is already occupied by a statue of Fanti, a very worthy General, whose friends are unwilling to see him removed elsewhere. So there is danger that the Savonarola will be put in a museum, for which it is unsuited by its colossal size.

Rome, at a first glance and a first hearing, seems unsettled. A change of capital is a serious business, and time is required to recover from it, both by those who arrive and those who receive them. One hears complaints of high prices and heavy taxes, for the latter of which, and probably for both, there is abundant foundation. Liberty, like most other things, must be paid for; and Italy is one of the best-taxed countries in Europe, so far, at least, as the amount goes. Financially, Italy is grievously embarrassed, but it hopes to pull through all its difficulties; and if the vein of luck should continue which it has enjoyed for some years past, it may not hope in vain. In Rome one of the difficulties is the building question. There are magnificent plans for the improvement of the city; but it is speaking within bounds, I believe, to say that one half the land of the late Papal States belongs to religious corporations, and, although the same measures ought to be applied to this property as have been applied in all other parts of Italy, the Government hesitates to take the step. Sooner or later the plunge must be made; but the Italian Government rather dreads the outcry the Clerical Party are sure to make. Meanwhile building land in Rome is said to be worth 50f. the square yard, which is a serious difficulty in the way of improving and enlarging Rome as Florence has been improved and enlarged. Rents are naturally very high. Foreigners are now numerous here, the last two or three weeks having brought a swarm of English and Americans, and the hotels are thronged. There has been a good deal of smallpox in Rome; but the doctors say it is much on the decline. Altogether the season seems not a bad one; but it will be short, Lent coming so early this year, and there is no reason to suppose that there will be any grand Church ceremonies at Easter to bring back the strangers who may have

strayed away in the interval. The Pope still sulks, and his supporters, including the larger portion of the Roman aristocracy, follow his example, close their houses and keep aloof.—*Correspondent of the "Times."*

THE EARL OF DERBY AT SEA.

In his recent speech at Liverpool, the Earl of Derby, speaking "advisedly," as he said, asserted that we are none of us, rich or poor, paying in proportion to our income one half as much as the burden borne by our grandfathers in the time of the great war, and that "probably one third would be nearer the mark." Now, even assuming that upwards of two thousand millions which our grandfathers borrowed (much of it at a rate of £60 per £100—much at even a less rate than that) and spent, leaving their grandsons to provide for it, was part of what our grandfathers paid, this assertion of his Lordship is about as accurate as his father's announcement that the single Russian province of Tamboff would deluge us annually with forty million quarters of wheat. By way of testing its accuracy we have taken from Bluebook 366, Session 1869, pp. 432, 434, 438, and 440, the accounts of income in Great Britain and Ireland, excluding "Balances in the Exchequer," "Repayments of Advances," and proceeds from lotteries, and the sums raised by creation of debt in each year from 1793 to 1816 inclusive, that being the period of the great war; and here are the figures:

	Total Receipts from Taxes. £	Raised by Borrowing. £	Total Income and Loans. £
1793	15,137,516	12,571,721	27,709,237
1794	15,153,728	23,800,152	38,953,880
1795	15,851,764	33,669,784	49,521,548
1796	15,744,550	37,211,279	52,955,829
1797	14,992,132	54,467,797	69,459,929
1798	18,637,184	40,291,738	58,928,922
1799	23,990,002	47,302,718	71,292,720
(5 Quarters) 1801	31,274,843	65,708,098	96,982,941
1802	29,916,194	64,104,918	94,021,112
1803	31,928,155	46,645,103	78,573,258
1804	31,740,855	34,441,634	66,182,509
1805	41,146,207	38,551,878	79,698,085
1806	44,541,980	57,569,835	102,111,815
1807	49,175,381	55,030,147	104,205,528
1808	53,893,763	53,096,421	106,990,184
1809	55,028,497	64,811,434	119,839,931
1810	54,161,730	63,162,579	117,324,309
1811	59,741,387	64,539,368	124,280,755
1812	59,837,796	71,748,930	131,586,726
1813	57,253,597	88,109,285	145,362,882
1814	66,136,611	113,228,329	179,364,940
1815	64,352,322	97,604,203	161,956,525
1816	69,702,908	107,865,909	177,568,817
Total 23)	919,339,102	23) 1,335,533,280	23) 2,254,872,382
Average £39,971,265	£58,066,664	£98,037,929	

Now, the income for the financial year ended March 31 last was £70,358,743, being nearly double the average of the whole twenty-three years. Deducting from it £3,675,372, the amount credited to Crown Lands and Miscellaneous Receipts, the sum would still be £66,683,371, being more than was levied by taxes in any year of the period except the last, more than double what was levied in any of the first eleven years, and more than four times as much as was exacted in the first five. Even taking the average of taxes and loans together—viz., £98,037,929—that is only some thirty millions more than we paid last year in taxes only. Will the Earl of Derby be good enough to state how he makes it out that we are paying but half of what our grandfathers paid, or "probably one third" only? Having the figures laid before him, we look with great curiosity for his explanation.—*Financial Reformer for February.*

COMMUNIST PRISONERS IN THE TIMBER-YARD, VERSAILLES.

We have already spoken of the attempts made at the timber-warehouse at Versailles to open a school for instructing the Communist prisoners confined there. Our Engraving this week represents the shed where some of the unfortunate are kept in durance, a tile-paved place, more like an exercise-shed than a domicile, but yet where some of the détenus are, or were, placed to sleep. It is a long punishment for many of those who may afterwards be acquitted of any serious connection with the acts of the Commune; and the great delay in the trials and the uncertainty of the sentences make imprisonment at Versailles a hard measure of justice even to some who may be pronounced guilty.

MADE BRAVE BY DANGER.

THE artist who has given us from nature this admirable study of a timid doe made brave by the danger that threatens her helpless fawn, probably intended to convey no special moral lesson, or we might point out how all high virtue is the result of forgetfulness of self in love for others. As it is, we leave the pretty woodland story to interpret itself, feeling confident that the sneaking, cruel, cowardly fox will not have the best of it. If the father stag were only here just now, Reynard would soon feel the tips of his antlers, or probably have his carcass battered by the pointed hoof of the family defender. To attack a fawn is, so far, a high game on the part of the fox. Lambs, rabbits, hares, partridges, geese, hens, and all sorts of small birds, as well as rats, mice, and lizards, are his prey; but the fawn is a big quarry, and nothing but his unconquerable impudence and cunning would lead him to seize it. He will watch what effect his fierce looks and determined manner has upon the timid mother, and act accordingly; but he must be sharp set to attempt it. Nobody knows what he will not attempt when he is in extremity. Crabs, shell-fish, serpents, toads, roots, and insects will none of them come amiss to satisfy his voracious hunger when nothing else is handy; and even beehives and wasps' nests are subject to his attacks, though he has over and over again to retreat and roll himself on the ground to get rid of his assailants before he can devour their store. It is declared that he will even rob the otter of his prey, by waiting in hiding till he sees that fierce fisherman come out of the water with a good-sized "catch" in his mouth, and then, making a sudden spring, so startle him as to cause him to drop his fish, which is at once seized and carried off. But of the cunning of the fox we shall have no better illustration than that of Albertus Magnus, the celebrated naturalist of the Middle Ages. "When the fox," says he, "is troubled with gnats or fleas, he taketh a mouthful of straw or soft hay, or hair, and so goeth into the water, dipping his hinder part by little and little; then the insects betake themselves to his head, which he keepeth out of the water; which the fox feeling, dippeh or diveth the same under water to his mouth, wherein he holdeth the hay as aforesaid, wherunto the fleas run for sanctuary or dry refuge; which, the fox perceiving, suddenly casteth it out of his mouth and runneth out of the water, by this means easing himself of all those enemies."

Alas! what can maternal loving courage do against such craft as this, except fight to the death?

REFUSAL TO SHOW SCHOOL-BOARD ACCOUNTS.—Mr. J.



COMMUNISTS IN THE CHANTIERS (TIMBER-YARD) PRISON, VERSAILLES.



"MADE BRAVE BY DANGER."

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

PUBLIC INTEREST.

NOTWITHSTANDING the absence of the Queen on Tuesday, considerable interest was manifested by the public in the opening of the Parliamentary Session. Large crowds gathered soon after one o'clock in Whitehall and Parliament-street; and if a certain disposition to congregate about the Horse Guards indicated on the part of some of their members an idea that, after all, the Queen was to take part in the ceremony of the day, the more general assembly in the neighbourhood of New Palace-yard and the crowding of Westminster Hall showed a sound knowledge of the nature of the proceedings which were to take place, and proved that the bulk of the people had come out to take a look at those who make the laws by which they are governed. There was the usual difference between the constituents of the crowds inside and outside the old hall, the occupants of which were of slightly higher rank and better dressed than those who remained in the damp streets, and might be regarded as occupying a middle position between the absolute outsiders and those fortunate individuals who had obtained admission to one or other of the Houses.

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The members of the House of Commons mustered early and in good numbers in their own chamber, and for a long half hour the mutual recognitions and warm handshakings of old acquaintances were witnessed, and the loud murmur of animated conversation was heard. Now and then a ringing laugh from some half-isolated group indicated the repetition of an old, or the perpetration of a new, Parliamentary joke. Friends of the Government and active members of the Opposition mingled freely together; and to a stranger to our institutions and their workings it would have seemed incomprehensible that the men who exchanged such cordial hand grips, or slapped each other so pleasantly upon the shoulder, may in a few weeks or days be engaged in the most animated conflict, and possibly accusing one another of the gravest political offences. The Ministers and leaders of Opposition were as usual conspicuous by their absence, but Mr. Glyn was to be seen passing rapidly from group to group, exchanging a word and a glance with friend or foe; and Mr. Noel, the gentleman who "whips" for the Opposition, glided in and out among the crowd of members with words of counsel and encouragement for his friends, and good-humoured banter for his antagonists. Amongst the earliest members to arrive was the ever-green Colonel French, the perpetual chairman of the kitchen committee, whose services to members were naturally recognised by the most cordial greetings. Sir Charles Dilke arrived in good time, and, as far as could be observed, the ban which has been placed upon him by certain classes of society is not much respected by his fellow-legislators. That he was a good deal chaffed upon his recent utterances is very probable; but there was no indication of any disposition to place him under the "taboo" which has been recommended by some ultra-Monarchical authorities. The most prominent ex-Ministers who were present were Colonel Wilson-Patten and Mr. Childers. The former looked buoyant and gay, as though it was an absolute pleasure to him to return to the duties and struggles of a Parliamentary campaign; but the friends of the late First Lord of the Admiralty could not fail to notice in his appearance traces of the effects of his recent illness. Last, but certainly not least, was to be noticed the familiar figure of Mr. Brand, the Speaker nominate. The Speaker himself when he entered the House was received with all the marks of respect which the Commons have from time immemorial been accustomed to show the first of their body. Every member stood in his place uncovered; but Parliamentary etiquette did not permit any expression of sympathy with Mr. Denison in regard to the causes which have dictated his resignation, or any special demonstration of approval of his conduct as Speaker.

IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

The actual opening of the Session, as our readers are aware, always takes place in the House of Lords; and there it is that the ladies (peeresses or their friends) who take an interest in Parliamentary ceremonials usually assemble. On Tuesday there was a good attendance of these fair spectators, who were accommodated with seats on the Opposition benches or in the Strangers' Gallery; but, whether it was owing to the late uncertain state of the weather or to a fashionable inclination towards darker hues, there was a general absence of those bright tints which are usually to be noticed on these occasions. Dark dresses and sealskin or velvet jackets were the rule; and, though here and there a brilliant blue or a "sweet" pink might be noticed, these were the exceptions, and not the rule. The diplomatic gallery was pretty well filled, and the most remarked of its occupants was General Schenck, the American Minister, who watched the proceedings with a keen and scrutinising glance. Until close upon two o'clock not a single noble Lord had entered the House, and the "Gilded Chamber" was left altogether to the ladies and visitors. The first peer to arrive was the Bishop of Hereford, and he was quickly followed by his brothers of Chichester, Bath and Wells, and Chester. Then a lay lord, unknown to any one except the most experienced officials of the House, and known to them more by appearance than by name, strolled in and took his seat on one of the Government benches. After him appeared the only member of the Government who was present during the proceedings—the Marquis of Lansdowne; and by the time the Lord Chancellor, the Marquis of Ripon, Lord Halifax, Lord Sydney, and Lord Bessborough, in their capacity of Royal Commissioners appointed to open Parliament, had taken their seats upon the traditional red bench, attired in the traditional scarlet robes and cocked hats, there were some eighteen or twenty peers in the House; but this number did not include any leading member of either party. In obedience to the direction of the Lord Chancellor, Sir Augustus Clifford, the Usher of the Black Rod, proceeded to the House of Commons to require their attendance; and not long afterwards he appeared at the bar, accompanied by the Speaker and many members of the Lower Chamber, who took up their positions with less noise and confusion than has generally been usual on these occasions. Then Mr. Slingsby Bethell, the reading clerk, read the Royal Commission authorising the persons named therein, including "Our well-beloved son, the Prince of Wales," to act on behalf of her Majesty; and the Lord Chancellor, with unusual hesitation and with many stumblings of speech, read the Royal Message, which will be found in another column. This having been done the Commons returned to their own House, and thus was opened the fourth Session of the eighth Parliament of Queen Victoria.

THE BIRMINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL AND DENOMINATIONAL EDUCATION.—The contest which has been going on in Birmingham ever since the passing of the Education Act, and which has, perhaps, aroused more feeling and attracted more attention locally than any other political question for many a day, passed into another phase on Tuesday, when the precept of the school board came to be presented to the Town Council. Although no payment has yet been made to a denominational school, it is well known that a portion of the money now asked will be devoted to paying the fees of poor children attending the Church of England and Roman Catholic schools. The Nonconformists, therefore, determined to oppose the granting of the precept, which was for the sum of £4000. On the presentation of the document Alderman Manton moved that it be not complied with. This was seconded by Alderman Charles Sturge, a brother of the late Joseph Sturge, and an illustrious member of the Society of Friends. Mr. Sturge, in a brief speech, said he had resisted church rates for forty years, and he would not submit to one now. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, chairman of the Education League executive, and Mr. Jesse Collings, hon. secretary of the same body, both of whom have seats in the council, spoke in support of the motion, and several councillors expressed their determination to refuse to pay the rate should it be granted. When the vote was taken, fifty-four out of sixty-four members were present, and the precept was rejected by 42 to 12. The members of the league are gratified at the attitude taken by the electors of West Bromwich, who, last evening, by a large majority, passed a vote of want of confidence in Mr. Bass, M.P., who refused, in addressing his constituents, to vote for the repeal of the twenty-fifth clause of the Education Act.

Imperial Parliament.

THE incidents connected with the opening of Parliament are described elsewhere, so we at once proceed to give a condensed report of the proceedings.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1872.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE ROYAL MESSAGE.
The Commons having been summoned, in ordinary form, to the House of Lords, the Lord Chancellor read the following Royal Message:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

I avail myself of the opportunity afforded by your reassembling for the discharge of your momentous duties to renew the expression of my thankfulness to the Almighty for the deliverance of my dear son, the Prince of Wales, from the most imminent danger, and of my lively recollection of the profound and universal sympathy shown by my loyal people during the period of anxiety and trial. I propose that on Tuesday, the 27th inst., conformably to the good and becoming usage of former days, the blessing thus received shall be acknowledged on behalf of the nation by a thanksgiving in the metropolitan cathedral. At this celebration it is my desire and hope to be present. Directions have been given to provide the necessary accommodation for the members of the two Houses of Parliament.

The assurances of friendship which I receive from foreign Powers continue to be in all respects satisfactory. I need hardly assure you that my endeavours will at all times be steadily directed to the maintenance of these friendly relations.

The slave trade, and practices scarcely to be distinguished from slave-trading, still pursued in more than one quarter of the world, continue to attract the attention of my Government. In the South Sea Islands the name of the British Empire is even now disdained by the connection of some of my subjects with these nefarious practices, and in one of them the murder of an exemplary prelate has cast fresh light upon some of their baseful consequences. A bill will be presented to you for the purpose of facilitating the trial of offences of this class in Australasia; and endeavours will be made to increase, in other forms, the means of counteraction.

Various communications have passed between my Government and the Government of France on the subject of the Commercial Treaty concluded in 1860. From a divergence in the views respectively entertained in relation to the value of protective laws, this correspondence has not brought about any agreement to modify that important convention. On both sides, however, there has been uniformly declared an earnest desire that nothing shall occur to impair the cordiality which has long prevailed between the two nations. Papers relating to these subjects will be laid before you.

The arbitrators appointed pursuant to the Treaty of Washington, for the purpose of amicably settling certain claims known as the Alabama claims, have held their first meeting at Geneva. Cases have been laid before the arbitrators on behalf of each party to the treaty. In the cases so submitted on behalf of the United States large claims have been included which are understood on my part not to be within the province of the arbitrators. On this subject I have caused a friendly communication to be made to the Government of the United States.

The Emperor of Germany has undertaken to arbitrate on the San Juan Water Boundary; and the cases of the two Governments have been presented to his Imperial Majesty.

The Commission at Washington has been appointed, and is in session. The provisions of the treaty which require the consent of the Parliament of Canada await its assembling.

Turning to domestic affairs, I have to apprise you that, with very few exceptions, Ireland has been free from serious crime. Trade in that part of the United Kingdom is active, and the advance of agricultural industry is remarkable.

I am able also to congratulate you, so far as present experience allows a judgment to be passed, upon the perceptible diminution of the number both of the graver crimes and of habitual criminals in Great Britain.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

The principal Estimates for the coming year have been prepared. They will at once be laid before you; and I trust that you will find them suitable to the circumstances of the country.

The state of the revenue affords favourable indications of the demand for employment and the general condition of the people: indications which are corroborated by a decline of pauperism not inconsiderable.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

Your attention will be invited to several measures of acknowledged national interest. Among these there will be bills for the improvement of public education in Scotland, for the regulation of mines, for the amendment of what is known as the licensing system, and in relation to the superior courts of justice and appeal.

In particular, a bill having for its main object the establishment of secret voting, together with a measure relating to corrupt practices at Parliamentary elections will be immediately presented to you.

Several measures of administrative improvement for Ireland will be laid before you.

There will likewise be laid before you legislative provisions founded on the report of the Sanitary Commission.

You, my Lords and Gentlemen, will, I am confident, again apply your well-known assiduity to that work of legislation which, from the increasing exigencies of modern society, still seems to grow upon your hands. And I shall continue to rely, under Divine Providence, alike on the loyalty of my people and on your energy and wisdom to sustain the constant efforts of the Crown to discharge the duties, to uphold the rights, and to defend the honour of the empire.

THE ADDRESS.

When the House assembled, at five o'clock,

The LORD CHANCELLOR again read the Queen's Speech, and Earl DELAWARE moved the Address in reply, and commented on the various subjects contained in the Royal Message. With respect to the Alabama claims he expressed an opinion, which he believed he held in common with his fellow-countrymen, that the demands recently put forward by America were utterly in-

missible.

Viscount POWERSOURT having seconded the motion,

The Duke of RICHMOND criticised the Queen's Speech, regretting that, so far as the paragraph relating to the Alabama question was concerned, the Government had not taken greater care to prevent the possibility of such a state of things as it described. Alluding to the Ballot Bill, he justified the course which their Lordships had taken, last year, in rejecting the hasty, crude, and ill-digested measure then brought forward, and, in conclusion, he expressed an earnest hope that her Majesty's Ministers would avoid anything in the shape of sensational legislation, and confine their attention to carrying measures the objects of which would be the welfare, safety, and comfort of the people.

Earl GRANVILLE replied, and, having claimed the indulgence of the House on the ground of indisposition, stated that he had good reason for believing that her Majesty would be present at the intended thanksgiving celebration at St. Paul's, and intimated his intention of moving, on Thursday next, that the House should appoint a Committee to take the necessary measures for facilitating the attendance of their Lordships on that occasion. Speaking of the Alabama question, he trusted that the Government would receive credit for having endeavoured to do its best in the matter; and he assured their Lordships that both he and his colleagues would be most careful not to sacrifice the rights or honour of the

country, although, of course, they would be glad to do all they could to bring about a satisfactory solution of the difficulty.

The Earl of DERBY saw no reason why questions of sanitary and social character should not be dealt with this Session, as some of the measures relating to those subjects might be brought forward in that House. With regard to the American question, he contended that the Government, having had ample warning of what the nature of the claims would be, they should have taken special precautions to have guarded against the possibility of such a difficulty as had arisen.

After a few words from Lord Redesdale, the motion was agreed to, and their Lordships adjourned at half-past seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

When the House of Commons reassembled, at half-past four o'clock, there was a large attendance of members, and the galleries were very full. Mr. Gladstone occupied the seat of the First Minister, with Mr. W. E. Forster on his right and Mr. Bruce on his left. There were also to be seen on the Ministerial bench Mr. Cardwell, Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, the Lord Advocate, and, a little later, Mr. Lowe. Mr. Disraeli, as became the leader of the Opposition, faced the Premier on the other side of the "red boxes," with Sir S. Northcote, Mr. Hardy, and Colonel W. Patten on his right, and Lord Royston on his left. Mr. Jessel (greeted by a cheer) took his seat on his re-election for Dover, and new writs were moved for the Wick Burghs, owing to the resignation of Mr. G. Loch, and for West Cheshire, in the place of Mr. John Tollemache. Presently Mr. Bates took his seat for Plymouth, Mr. Watney his for East Surrey, and Colonel Hogg his for Truro.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

A great number of notices of motion were given on Tuesday in the House of Commons, as already intimated, embracing every possible description of subject. Mr. Gladstone announced his intention to move for a Select Committee to consider the best means of expediting the business of the House; Mr. Secretary Bruce, a bill for the regulation of mines; Mr. W. E. Forster, a measure to provide for secret voting; the Lord Advocate, a bill to amend and extend the provisions of the law of Scotland on the subject of education; and Mr. Hibbert, a bill on the subject of public health. Mr. Macfie (whose rising evoked a burst of ironical cheering) announced his intention to bring under notice the report of the Commissioners on Emigration; Mr. Walpole, a bill for the appointment of a public prosecutor; Mr. Gilpin, a bill to abolish the punishment of death; Mr. W. Fowler, a bill to repeal the Contagious Diseases Act; Sir R. Palmer, a resolution in favour of a general central school of legal education; Sir W. Lawson, a permissive bill; Mr. Corry, a resolution on the condition of the Admiralty; Mr. S. Cave, a bill to authorise the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the failure of the Albert and European Life Assurance Offices; Mr. Hardcastle, Mr. P. Taylor, and Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson, game laws; Mr. Fawcett, abolition of tests in the University of Dublin; Mr. Cross, the appointment of Sir R. P. Collier to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council; and Sir M. Lopes, a bill on the subject of local taxation. Notices relating to many other annual proposals were also given.

THE ADDRESS.

When the Speaker had read the Queen's Speech—nearly every member, according to ancient custom, removing his hat while the reading went on, though there were one or two exceptions on the Treasury bench itself—Mr. Strutt proposed, and Mr. Colman seconded, the Address to the Crown. Mr. Strutt wore the uniform of the Leicestershire yeomanry, but Mr. Colman was in plain levée dress.

Mr. STRUTT touched *seriatim* on the various topics mentioned in the Speech, congratulating the country warmly on the recovery of the Prince of Wales, and expressing his cordial agreement in the general legislation proposed by the Government. On the paragraph relating to the French Treaty, he remarked that recent discussions in the Chambers showed the doctrines of Free Trade to be making progress in France, and with regard to the Treaty of Washington he maintained that it was never understood by the English people to include the claims for indirect losses. He hoped, however, that the difficulty would only be temporary, and that a friendly settlement would not be impeded by what had occurred.

Mr. COLMAN seconded the Address in a brief and able speech, the greater part of which was devoted to proving the soundness of the prosperity of the country. He regretted the misconception in regard to the Geneva Arbitration, expressed a decided opinion that the licensing system must be dealt with, and, as a Nonconformist, avowed his discontent with some parts of the recent legislation on the subject of education.

Mr. DISRAELI subsequently rose to criticise the Ministerial programme, commencing with a protest against the novel system that had grown up of late years of Governmental apologies during the recess. Passing next to Ireland, he objected to the loose wording of the paragraph in reference to that country, and taunted the Government with want of care in its preparation. He objected to the use of the words "free from serious crime," and asked whether the ballot was to be regarded as a remedial measure. He objected to exceptional legislation for any particular portion of the empire, and he invited the Government to explain what their Irish policy was to be. To the ballot in any portion of the empire he intended to offer an unflinching opposition. With regard to our relations with the United States the right hon. gentleman expressed his opinion that the paragraph in the Queen's Speech was not adequate to the emergency. At the same time he vindicated the conduct of Lord Derby's Government in offering to refer the Alabama claims to arbitration; but he repudiated the idea that Lord Derby and his colleagues had ever meditated the consideration of indirect and constructive claims. Until very recently the country had been given to understand that "all was limited and everything definite," but the House was unable to gather what the real state of the case was from the rigid and jejune paragraph in the Queen's Speech. The claims of the United States he regarded as wild and preposterous. They were greater than the tribute that could be extracted by conquest, and a firm and dignified rejection of them was the only safe course to adopt. He did not ask the Government to state the nature of the friendly communication that had been addressed to the Government at Washington, but he insisted that the House had a right to know when the communication had been sent. Recommending next a calm, forbearing, but firm view of the case, Mr. Disraeli expressed a hope that a policy of frankness and friendship would be pursued, and that the question would not be allowed to drift into the Serbonian bog of diplomacy.

Mr. GLADSTONE, having in the first instance referred in terms of regret to the indisposition of the Queen and the alarming illness of the Prince of Wales during the recess, proceeded to justify the Treaty of Washington and the remarkable concessions made by Great Britain. He explained that we had engaged to refer to arbitration our liability not only for the vessels destroyed by the Alabama and her sister ships, but for the naval expenditure of America in the fitting out of the cruisers that had been sent against them. These concessions might be too large, but they were made advisedly, to show the people of the United States that we were ready to strain the treaty to the utmost in order to put ourselves on terms of perfect friendship with them. With regard to the indirect and constructive claims to which Mr. Disraeli had referred, he had no hesitation in stating that no protest whatever had been sent to the Government of Washington, but that on Saturday last a communication had been forwarded to the United States, urging that the authentic sense of the treaty was wholly at variance with the recognition of any such claims. The nation would, he thought, be indeed insane if it were, even in the last extremity of war, to entertain such demands. His own opinion was that the United States had too high an opinion of the people of Great Britain to presume to such an extent on their credulity. He looked with the utmost confidence to the sense and

good feeling of the Transatlantic population, and he entertained the fullest expectation that the unity of opinion that prevailed on the Continent on the character of those claims would not be without its softening and conciliating influence.

After a few words from Mr. O'REILLY and Sir J. GRAY, complaining that the Speech from the Throne had not contained any reference to the important question of education in Ireland, the motion was agreed to, and a committee was appointed to draw up the Address.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7. HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE SPEAKER'S RESIGNATION.

The SPEAKER intimated, in touching language, his intention to quit the office which he had held for nearly fifteen years; and Mr. GLADSTONE, with a few well-chosen words of sympathy and regard, announced that next day he would bring forward two motions—the first expressing the sentiments of the House in taking leave of the Speaker; the second proposing an address to her Majesty praying that "some signal mark of her Royal favour" should be conferred on Mr. Denison for his "great and eminent services."

THE ADDRESS.

When the report on the Address was brought up, Mr. BERNAL OSBORNE made some sharp criticisms on the conduct of the Government with regard to the American negotiations; Mr. Horsman, Mr. Otway, and other members followed on the same subject; and Mr. Gladstone made a vigorous speech in reply, vindicating the Government for not taking the House more into its confidence, and maintaining that the Treaty of Washington was "unambiguous and unequivocal," in both words and intentions.

NEW BILLS.

Leave was then given to bring in a number of measures—among them Sir Wilfrid Lawson's Permissive Bill, Mr. Hardcastle's Game Law Bill, Mr. McLagan's Fires Bill, Mr. Chambers' Deceased Wife's Sister Bill, and Mr. Jacob Bright's Female Electoral Disabilities Bill.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8. HOUSE OF LORDS.

On the motion of Earl STANHOPE, copies of the correspondence which had taken place between the Chief Justices of the Courts of Queen's Bench and Common Pleas and the Heads of the Government respecting the recent appointment of Sir R. Collier were ordered.

At the instance of Earl GRANVILLE, it was agreed that a Select Committee be appointed to consider what means should be adopted for the attendance of their Lordships' House at the proposed Thanksgiving ceremony, in St. Paul's Cathedral, on the 27th inst.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The SPEAKER ruled that it was not competent for Mr. Milbank to put the question of which he had given notice—namely, to ask Sir C. Dilke to explain to the House "the subjects of the speeches delivered by him at Newcastle and other towns."

The motion of which Mr. Cross gave notice respecting the appointment of Sir R. Collier as a paid member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, was fixed for Monday next.

RETIREMENT OF THE SPEAKER.

Mr. GLADSTONE, having passed a high eulogium upon the merits of the Speaker, moved a resolution in accordance with it, as also the following:—"That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying her Majesty that she will be most graciously pleased to confer some signal mark of her Royal favour upon the Right Hon. John Evelyn Denison, Speaker of this House, for his great and eminent services performed to his country during the important period in which he has, with such distinguished ability and integrity, presided in the chair of this House."

Mr. DISRAELI seconded the resolutions in a speech alike complimentary to the right hon. gentleman.

The resolutions were carried nem. con., amid the general cheers of the House.

The Speaker, who appeared to be much affected, expressed his most grateful acknowledgments.

THE BALLOT.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER then obtained leave to introduce the Ballot Bill. It was similar to the measure of last year, except that it was now divided into two bills, one relating exclusively to the principle of secret voting, the other having reference to corrupt practices. The latter bill was subsequently brought in by the Attorney-General, after obtaining leave. Both bills were read the first time.

THE NEW M.P.s—Captain John Philip Nolan, of Ballinderry, who was on Tuesday returned to Parliament as the representative of the Home Rule interest, by a large majority over Captain French, is a son of Mr. John Nolan, of Ballinderry, who was a magistrate for the county of Galway. He was born about the year 1838, entered the Royal Artillery as Lieutenant in 1857, and became Captain in 1869. He is a magistrate for the county, with which he is connected by property, and now enters Parliament for the first time. Mr. Francis Sharp Powell, who was on Monday returned to Parliament in the Conservative interest, as successor to the seat for the northern division of the West Riding of Yorkshire, left vacant by the death of Sir Francis Crossley, is not new to the House of Commons, having sat as M.P. for Wigan in 1857-9, and for Cambridge borough in 1863-8. He is connected with Yorkshire by the ties of land, having a seat at Horton, near Bradford; and he is a magistrate for Lancashire and for the West Riding of Yorkshire. His defeat of Mr. Holden, the Liberal candidate, has occasioned much excitement. He was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, where he graduated in honours in 1850, and was elected a Fellow of St. John's in the following year. He was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1853, and went the Northern Circuit, but has for some years ceased to practise. He is opposed to the Permissive Bill. He is described in *Dod's Parliamentary Companion* for 1867 as a "Liberal Conservative, in favour of a policy of non-intervention in foreign affairs, an upholder of the interests of the Church, and a supporter of sound moral and religious education throughout the country." Mr. Powell was last year an unsuccessful candidate for the borough of Stalybridge. The nomination for Kerry took place on Tuesday, at Tralee, amid much noise and excitement. The Court-house was crowded, mostly by supporters of Mr. Blennerhassett, the Home Rule candidate, and the show of hands was in his favour. A poll was demanded on behalf of Mr. Dease, to take place on Friday.

THE NEW TESTAMENT COMPANY OF REVISERS sat four days last week. They have reached the eighth chapter of St. Luke's Gospel.

RESISTANCE TO CARDINAL CULLEN.—The Irish Poor-Law Commissioners, having had a notification from Cardinal Cullen that the Rev. R. O'Keeffe, P.P. of Callan and Roman Catholic Chaplain of the local workhouse, has been suspended by him from the "exercise of any spiritual functions," have called upon him to resign the chaplaincy. The guardians have passed a unanimous resolution, declaring that during nine years of service Mr. O'Keeffe has "done no act unbecoming his sacred calling." His parishioners also take his side against his ecclesiastical superiors. Mr. O'Keeffe, on his part, has asked the Poor-Law Commissioners for a copy of the "paper professing to be a suspension," denying, at the same time, the Cardinal's power to suspend him, and challenging his jurisdiction under the laws of his Church. The commissioners finally refuse to hand to him the document, saying, simply, that it "bears the signature of the Cardinal Archbishop of Dublin," and "purports to suspend you, for reasons therein stated, from the administration of the sacraments, the celebration of mass, the hearing of confessions, and preaching the Word of God." Mr. O'Keeffe had disputes with his Bishop about his parish schools, and took actions against his superiors in the law courts for libel. The controversy excites much attention. Mr. O'Keeffe continues meanwhile to officiate in his parish, and some of the journals censure the proceedings of the Poor-Law Commissioners as at least premature.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1872.

UNREGARDED POVERTY.

AMONG the imminent and pressing measures of what future Session will the claims of the great unregarded class receive the attention of Parliament? All kinds of enactments are properly demanded on behalf of the poorer classes; the working man is likely even to suffer from a too eager desire to grant him the benefits of legislation on every subject. Landowners, farmers, merchants, bankers, capitalists, tradesmen, all are represented in the House of Commons, and there is unbounden enulation on the part of candidates who go for the "labour ticket;" but one vast constituency has yet no voice raised in its favour—the class of genteel poverty. Let a candidate come forward, and there will be no need to look for a programme; while, with a little clever organisation, a triumphant election is certain. The voters are all householders, and all suffer from the same grievances, about which they have scarcely any difference of opinion; so the preliminary campaign would be easy. If it did but know it, the genteel class is the most influential in the community. Tradesmen subsist by it, speculators build for it, advertisers spend millions to engage its attention, the Revenue is largely supported by it; and yet legislation passes it over, and Acts of Parliament, which seem framed for its relief, always become dead letters.

The man with £150 to £200 a year and a wife and family finds both the Government and his fellow-citizens arrayed against him. He is a poor pigeon who, flutter as he may, is surely to be brought down. The very house he lives in is run up in contravention of the Building Act, so that it is hot in summer and cold in winter. When once he becomes a tenant in a genteel terrace he discovers that the "remarkably low rent" which tempted him includes supplementary expenses for repairs to which Alabama indirect claims alone afford a parallel. The bells, the sash-lines, the locks, the kitchen range, the water-pipes, the drains, in vain challenge the attention of the obliging owner of the property; while the collector of rents is "a mere agent, who has but one duty to perform," which he discharges with the regularity of a receiver of rates and taxes. Of course genteel poverty, represented, say, by a city clerk, can only afford to live in districts where the rates are heavy. The assessment for the poor is as irregularly severe as the income-tax is systematically overwhelming. Even the knowledge that the collectors of taxes receive salaries to nearly double the amount of his own scarcely mitigates the unpleasantness of a summons.

Quarter after quarter he finds his income barely sufficient to meet the needs of an increasing family. It is cold-mutton day four times a week, and very often bread-and-treacle or bread-and-dripping day for the children, that there may be a little bit left for his supper. The boot bill is in itself alarming, and, as to schooling—well he will soon have to pay for educating the children of other people, and there is no State provision for his own. His wife has learnt the hard lesson of life, but she cannot yet go out on Saturday night and scramble with a crowd at the butcher's stall to secure cheap pieces. There inevitably comes a time when the quarter's salary is forestalled and household expenditure is represented by those little red-covered books issued by obliging shopkeepers to genteel customers. The incidental costs of living, the constant drain of small, excessive demands serve to keep the poor fellow on a perpetual strain; while every year, as his strength fails, his difficulties increase. How is he to save anything? Let him insure his life for a hundred or two, and by the time he has paid twenty years of premiums the office will transfer its business, and the new office will be wound up with a shilling in the pound for the policy-holders, who were "sure to be all right in any case." Amidst his distresses there is one temptation always at hand. As he plods to the office in the morning a little ticket is slipped into his hand by a soughing tout who slinks away from public gaze. It announces to him that "money may be borrowed in sums from £5 to £300, without any security worth mentioning." As he looks through his penny newspaper he lights upon an appeal to persons in need of a "temporary loan." Poor wretch! Again, we ask, where is the candidate who will go into Parliament as his representative against dishonest builders, rapacious landlords, extortionate taxation, bubble societies? What aspirant for a seat will devote himself, on behalf of genteel poverty, to advocating equalisation of poor rates, the adoption of an equitable sliding scale for the assessment of income-tax, enforcement of the building and sanitary Acts, supervision of gas and water companies, and the establishment of district public markets?

WATER SUPPLY

will, it may be hoped, be one of the questions that the present Session will set at rest. The long continuance of

wet weather may have had some effect in abating the discussion; but, surely, it is time to remember what we were promised by the Act passed on Aug. 21 last. The companies are not at all likely to remind us of it if we let the opportunity slip without making the necessary demand. On Wednesday week the preliminary six months will have elapsed, after which it will be competent for the Board of Works to demand, at the instance of the inhabitants of any metropolitan district, that arrangements shall be made for a constant supply of water to householders, at a pressure sufficient to carry the stream to the top of an ordinary dwelling. After this notice has been duly given two months will be allowed for carrying the provision of the Act into effect, so that, on April 20, we ought all to be rejoicing in the abolition of the foul cistern and the empty water-butt, and looking forward to the possible luxury of a bath under our own roofs. To genteel poverty, hitherto condemned to the smallest of cisterns for the largest of families, the boon will be inestimable. To have water on a Sunday, even after a dozen pailfuls have been used for Saturday night's "tubbing," and then not to have to wait on Monday morning till the turncock pleases to let us begin the week's washing—these are joys that will come home to many a domestic bosom; and we humbly wish we may get them.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN is to return to Windsor on the 20th inst.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S COLLECTION in the South Kensington Museum was visited during the first week by 26,739 persons free, and 2961 paying sixpence on students' days.

A PRESENT OF GAME has been made to Guy's Hospital by the Prince of Wales. The bag consists of twenty pheasants, twenty partridges, and ten hares.

PRINCE ARTHUR is expected to arrive at Dover on Monday next from visiting the Crown Prince and Princess of Germany and the Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse-Darmstadt.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS TECK and family return to Kensington Palace towards the close of next month from passing the winter in Germany.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief will hold a levee, at one o'clock on Thursday, the 15th Inst., at the Horse Guards, Whitehall, the number being limited to 150.

THE DUC D'ACMABLE and the Prince de Joinville announce, in a letter to the *Journal Officiel*, that, had they been present, they should have voted for the return of the Assembly to Paris, which proposition the Assembly negatively on the 2nd Inst.

THE EX-EMPEROR NAPOLEON has sent £20, and Prince Napoleon £10, towards the objects of the special performance which is to be given at the St. James's Theatre this (Saturday) afternoon.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND was entertained at the Dublin Mansion House, on Tuesday evening, and met with a warm reception. In responding to the toast of "Prosperity to Ireland," he compared the present state of the country with that of former years, and pointed out the signs of order and contentment and of increased prosperity.

MR. ODO RUSSELL, her Majesty's Ambassador to the Court of Berlin, had dinner with the Queen on Monday.

THE LATE BISHOP PATTESON bequeathed the whole of his private fortune (some £10,000) to the Melanchian Mission, in which he laboured incessantly for upwards of sixteen years, and in which he lost his life.

THE MARRIAGE OF LORD H. R. C. SOMERSET, M.P. for Monmouthshire, second son of the Duke of Beaufort, and Lady Isobel Somers Cocks, eldest daughter of Earl Somers, was solemnised, on Tuesday, at St. George's Church, Hanover-square.

MR. POPE HENNESSY, who was lately appointed Governor of the Bahamas, has been offered, and has accepted, the post of Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the West African Settlements—including Sierra Leone, Gambia, the Gold Coast, and Lagos. Mr. Hennessy is now at the Hague, where he has assisted in the negotiations connected with the cession to Great Britain of the Dutch colonies on the Gold Coast.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, DUBLIN, on Tuesday, £1000 damage were given to Miss Lucy Fitzgerald, plaintiff in an action for breach of promise; the defendant being a Mr. Fox, a surgeon in the Army, and now stationed on the African coast.

LORD G. HAMILTON, M.P., on Wednesday, presided over a meeting of representatives of metropolitan parishes affected by the Turnpike Abolition Act of last Session, at which it was resolved that measures should be taken for the maintenance of the roads without throwing the cost upon the several parishes, and that a county rate would be the most desirable means of supplying the deficiency.

THE MORMON TRIALS have been postponed until the March Term, in consequence of the United States Attorney-General having no appropriation from Congress to meet the expenses, and the territorial authorities refusing to pay them.

A PASSENGER TRAIN proceeding from Luxembourg to Trèves, on Tuesday, ran into a goods train before arriving at the Ostrange station. The guard was killed, and four passengers were severely injured.

MR. SOTHERN has been performing in Philadelphia; MR. CHARLES MATHEWS is delighting the New Yorkers; and MDLLE. CHRISTINE NILSSON leaves New York for England on April 20.

SMITH'S PRIZE, at Cambridge University, has this year been awarded to Mr. R. Webb, the Senior Wrangler. Mr. Horace Lamb, of South Stockport, Second Wrangler, was second for the prize.

THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S QUARTERLY RETURN states that the resident population of the United Kingdom, in the middle of last year, was 31,529,496; England and Wales having 22,760,559 inhabitants, Scotland 3,366,378, and Ireland 5,402,759.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON has appointed the following preachers for the Special Sunday Evening Services in the cathedral during the rest of the month:—11th, the Rev. Daniel Moore, M.A., Vicar of Holy Trinity, Paddington, and Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen. 18th, the Rev. Edward King, M.A. Honorary Canon of Christ Church and Principal of Cuddesdon Theological College. 25th, the Very Rev. Robert Scott, D.D., Dean of Rochester.

THE VACANCY ON THE SCHOOL BOARD created by the retirement of the Rev. William Rogers has been filled by the election of Mr. John Bennett, F.R.S., Sheriff of London. There was no other nomination within the time laid down in the Act, and therefore Mr. Sheriff Bennett "walked over."

THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT has adopted the Harvey sea torpedo, and has ordered a number to be manufactured by Messrs. Vavasseur and Co., of the London Ordnance Works.

AN ACTION TO RECOVER COMPENSATION for injuries received upon the Metropolitan Railway was tried in the Court of Common Pleas on Tuesday, when the jury awarded the plaintiff £50.

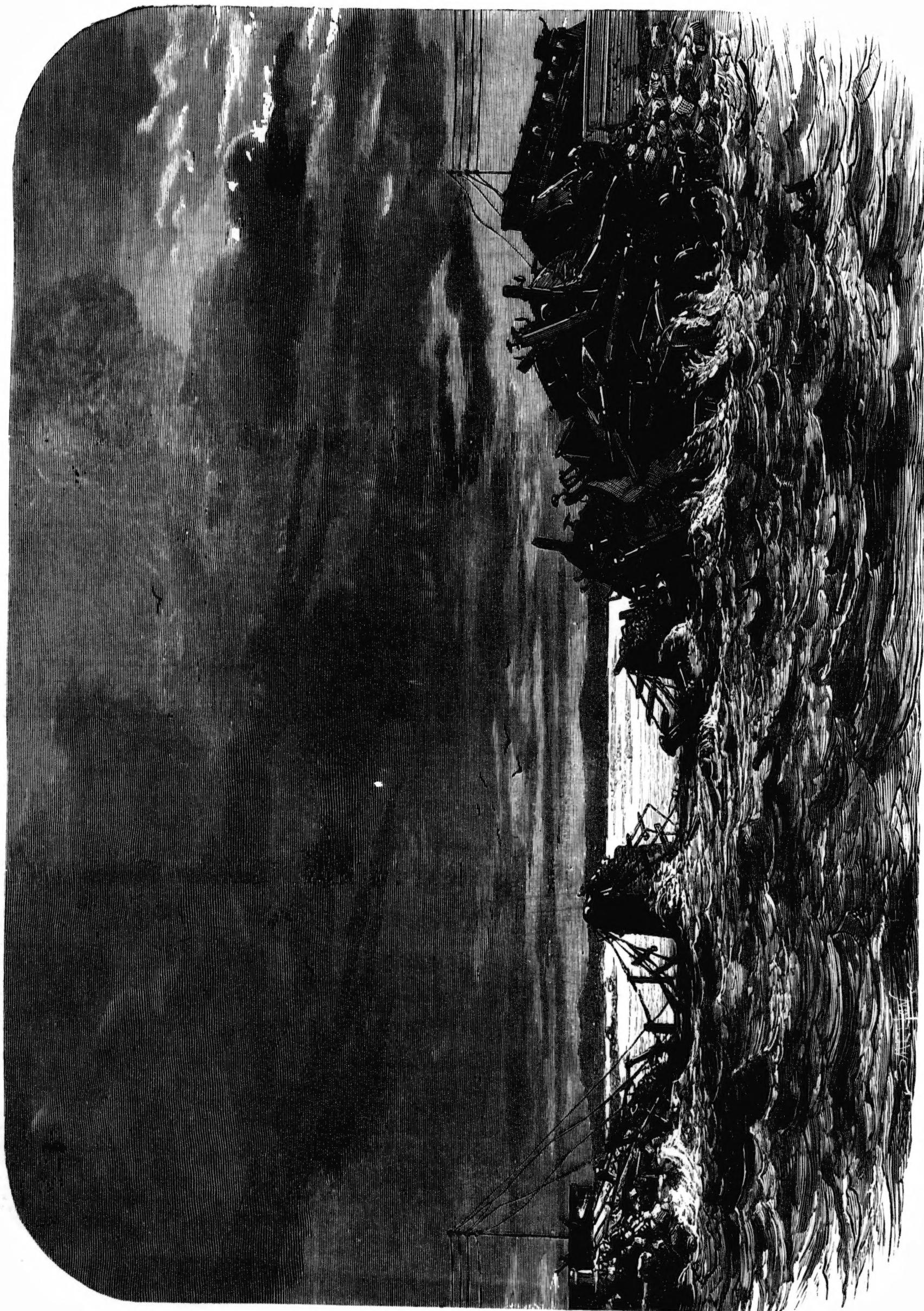
TWO MEN WERE CONVICTED AT BOW-STREET, on Tuesday, of having carried on the pawnbroking business without a license. One was fined £50 and the other £25.

AN AURORA OF UNUSUAL MAGNITUDE, and combining the various hues of the rainbow, attracted much attention in Edinburgh last Saturday evening. There was also a display over London on Sunday evening.

BOTH HOUSES OF CONVOCATION assembled at Westminster on Wednesday. An announcement from the Archbishop of Canterbury was expected, on the subject of the Fourth Report of the Ritual Commission; but, in consequence of the Queen's license not having arrived, business was postponed until Thursday.

JUDGMENT WAS GIVEN, ON WEDNESDAY, IN THE BRIGHTON RITUAL CASE, by the Lord Chancellor. Mr. Purchas was suspended for one year, and sequestration ordered on his property for payment of costs of former proceedings, amounting to £2,000 10s. 10d. Mr. Purchas was not represented.

EXTRAORDINARY ROBBERY IN RUSSIA.—An extraordinary theft is said to have been committed in the Imperial Artillery Museum, St. Petersburg. All the costly insignia of the Orders of the St. Andrew, Alexander Nevsky, and the White Eagle have disappeared, the value amounting to millions. Stringent orders have been given to the police to prevent the escape of the thieves.



FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT PONT-DE-BRAGUE, NEAR CANNES, FRANCE.



THE FIRST VALENTINE.

THE LATE RAILWAY DISASTER IN FRANCE.

The circumstances connected with the railway accident at Pont-de-Brague, near Antibes, were stated in our last week's Number. It will be remembered that the train to which the mishap occurred left Menton for Cannes, on Wednesday, Jan. 24, at twenty-four minutes past four p.m. Owing to continuous rain the torrents were much swollen, but the line was for a time in no way affected by them, and the traffic went on in the usual manner. One of the torrents was crossed by a viaduct, called the Pont-de-Brague, and here it was that the disaster occurred. The water, in its hurried course, had brought down a number of branches of trees and other débris of all kinds, which accumulated under the arches and formed a sort of barrier there. The station-master at Antibes, upon being informed of this, proceeded to the spot, and, foreseeing danger, stationed three men near to warn approaching trains. About half-past five o'clock in the afternoon the viaduct gave way. Shortly afterwards the train above referred to came up at full speed, and, notwithstanding the signals made by the three men, dashed into the water, dragging with it the whole of the carriages, fourteen in number. Efforts were at once made to rescue the passengers. Twelve were found to be more or less seriously wounded, and the dead bodies of four others were recovered by midnight. The stoker and engine-driver were also killed. Seven of the passengers received no injury. Fortunately, there were only about thirty in the train. The engine and ten of the carriages were smashed to pieces by the fall.

THE FIRST VALENTINE.

The great day of surprises, more remarkable than those of the Attorney-General himself, will be the event of the coming week in many a household. The postman will be the hero of the situation. Anxious bright eyes will watch his coming; fresh young cheeks will flush with pleasure at his summons. Hopes and fears, and jealousies and wonder, will ruffle gentle hearts as he hands in his messages from Cupid, and even the tiny, chubby four-year-old pet will want her special Valentine, sent by some nursery companion or budding playmate.

It is a cheap excitement and an easy pleasure to give to children, and St. Valentine can never be invoked more innocently than by sending a pretty floral perfumed sheet of infantine love-making to a happy little maiden who is always ready to give kisses in return.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THANKSGIVING DAY AT ST. PAUL'S.

The Prince of Wales continues to increase in strength. His Royal Highness, with the Princess, witnessed the shooting at Sandringham last week. On Sunday he attended Divine service at Sandringham church for the first time since his illness, and is expected to leave Sandringham for Windsor this day (Saturday).

The Royal Thanksgiving at St. Paul's is definitely fixed for Tuesday, the 27th inst. If the Prince be well enough he will, along with the Princess of Wales, accompany the Queen to St. Paul's.

The route of the Royal procession will be by way of the Strand, Fleet-street, and Ludgate-hill, on going to the Cathedral, and by the Victoria Embankment, from Blackfriars, on its return. At Temple Bar there will be the accustomed ceremony by the Lord Mayor opening the gates and presenting the sword to the Queen, and afterwards receiving back that emblem of civic authority from her Majesty.

Seats will be provided in St. Paul's, as far as can be at present ascertained, for between 7000 and 8000 persons. Of these the greater number will be apportioned to peers, peersesses, members of Parliament, the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's and clergy, the city of London, the Metropolitan Board of Works, the high sheriffs of counties, the mayors of the United Kingdom, the representatives of the Army, the Navy, the Bar, the Civil Service, and other bodies and persons selected to represent the nation. Full information will be published in due time as to the distribution of these seats. The remaining places will be distributed by the Lord Chamberlain, to whom applications may be addressed, by letter, to his office, at St. James's Palace; but in order to prevent disappointment it should be stated that the applications already received there exceed by hundreds the limited number of seats which can possibly remain at his disposal.

RIMMEL'S VALENTINES.—St. Valentine's Day, the great epistolary festival of "Young Loviers," being close at hand, Mr. Eugene Rimmel has, as usual, made ample provision for the occasion; and has been able to do so under more favourable circumstances than last year. Paris, where so many articles *démodé*, Valentines included, are manufactured, was then shut up by leaguering hosts, and its resources were all but unavailable for Mr. Rimmel's purposes. This year there is no impediment, and the result is that he has been able to prepare a more than usually varied and beautiful assortment of Love's misives. Several new and beautiful designs have been produced, among which we may particularly mention two. One is a fine series of Oriental Valentines, such as we may suppose the amorous youth of China send to their tiny-footed fair ones; that is, if St. Valentine has obtained a footing in "The Flowery Land." The other set includes figures of several very pretty girls, who saucily ring the changes on the now famous phrase, "Would you be surprised to hear?" followed by such additions as these:—"I should like to call you mine," "You are a charming girl," &c. Sachets, cards, and so forth, there are also in great abundance, and of beautiful as well as varied design. In short, an inspection of Mr. Rimmel's stock is sure to afford a treat to all love-languishing nymphs and swains.

MR. PEABODY'S GIFT TO THE LABOURING POOR OF LONDON.—The trustees of the Peabody Donation Fund have published their annual statement of proceedings for the year ending Dec. 31, 1871. Under the first trust five groups of buildings—at Spitalfields, Islington, Shadwell, Westminster, and Cheltenham—have been erected, affording accommodation, collectively, to nearly 600 families; and the trustees also possess a site at Bermondsey on which they contemplate building. The accrued rents and investments of this trust, after deducting its administrative expenses, amounted, at the close of the past year, to £32,922 18s. 3d. This sum, added to the original fund of £150,000, makes the property of this trust now amount to £182,922 18s. 3d. The second donation of Mr. Peabody, to the amount of £200,000, became available for building purposes in 1869; and to this sum will be added, in 1873, in accordance with Mr. Peabody's bequest, a further amount of £150,000. Out of this fund were purchased the site at Chelsea and the Magdalene Hospital estate at Blackfriars-road, described in the report of last year. On the last-named property the buildings then in course of construction were completed in August last, affording tenements to 300 families, for which applications were and continue to be largely in excess of the accommodation available. Profiting by experience, the trustees have introduced into these dwellings a new style and system of construction, affording, at less outlay, and without increased rents, greater comforts and conveniences to the tenants than in the buildings previously erected.

CATHEDRAL RESTORATION.—A large and influential meeting of the inhabitants of the diocese has been held at Exeter in furtherance of the restoration of the cathedral in that city. The work has been in progress in the interior for some considerable time, and the restoration of the choir will cost £24,000 (about £18,000 of which has already been obtained), whilst the nave will cost £10,000 more; and the removal of some buildings which at present obstruct the view of the south side will cost £10,000 or £15,000 addition. The Bishop of Exeter earnestly commended the work to the meeting, and moved that it was most desirable to complete the work already begun. Sir J. Duckworth seconded the motion, remarking that it was a work commanding itself to all classes, and he trusted that they would find Nonconformists contributing to such a noble memorial of the past. Lord Devon supported the motion, which was put and carried amid loud applause. On the motion of the High Sheriff, seconded by Mr. Ellis, it was resolved that, as the exterior of the cathedral was much concealed from public view by several incongruous buildings, application should be made to the Dean and Chapter and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to consent to their removal and to the laying out of the surrounding grounds in an appropriate manner. Chancellor Harrington (who has subscribed £5000 towards the restoration and reseated the nave, as well as carried out a deal of similar work at his own private cost) expressed his willingness to give up his house—an offer received with much applause. The work of restoration of Worcester Cathedral is progressing satisfactorily, and an important portion of it has just been completed. Sufficient money has been raised in the diocese for fully carrying out the designs, and it is expected that the restoration will be completed in a little more than a year from the present time. It is stated that the first artists of this country and some "talented French refugees" have been engaged late on the restoration of the choir, from designs by Mr. Gilbert Scott.

INSTRUCTION IN SCIENCE AND ART FOR WOMEN.

PROFESSOR GUTHRIE delivered the eighth of his series of lectures on physics and chemistry at the South Kensington Museum last Saturday, when he made a number of experiments to illustrate the laws which govern the action of light and determine its effects, the lecture theatre being darkened for the purpose. In the first place he showed by the position of shadows that light travels in straight lines. In illustrating this point by means of a rod placed between a candle and a screen, he showed that it is only the central portion of the rod which casts a true shadow on the screen, the margins of the shadow being partially illuminated by the light which passes from the sides of the rod, and explained how the same phenomenon presents itself in eclipses. That portion of the earth which is exposed to the sun is in sunshine; that portion of the earth which is in its own shadow is in darkness; but it is only the central portion of the shadow, which no ray of light can reach, that is perfect—the outer region, called the penumbra, being partially illuminated, as in the case of the shadow of the rod on the screen. Having indicated the bearing of the subject in regard to astronomical phenomena—as in the case of eclipses of the moon—Professor Guthrie proceeded to speak of the "intensity" of light. Taking two surfaces of different sizes, each exposed to the same quantity of light, he inquired what is the proportion between the intensity of light on the smaller and on the larger surface. There is the same quantity of light, but it is spread over a larger surface in the one case than in the other. If you take two spheres, one of which has a diameter twice as great as the diameter of the other, the surface of the one will be four times as great as the surface of the other—the surfaces varying as the squares of the diameters, or, which comes to the same thing, the square of the radii. If you have two spheres, the radius of one of which is 1 in., and the radius of the other 2 in., the surface of the latter will be four times as great as the surface of the former. If the diameter of the one is 3 in., and the diameter of the other 12 in., the squares of the diameters will of course be respectively nine and 144. Divide 144 by nine and you have the difference of intensity. The same quantity of light falls upon each surface, but the intensity is sixteen times as great in the one case as in the other. The lecturer went on to show that the intensity of the light which falls upon a body from a constant source varies immensely with the square of the distance of the body from the source of light. Having established this geometrical fact, he proceeded to notice certain phenomena of light and heat which correspond to certain phenomena of sound. Light, like heat, may linger in certain bodies after the source of light is withdrawn; and something similar takes place when you strike a tune-fork and hear the sound for some time afterwards. In the same way heat lingers in a mass of iron long after the iron has been withdrawn from the fire. The similar phenomenon observable in regard to light is called "insulation," a term which, having reference to the sun, must not of course be confounded with "insulation" which refers to an island. Certain precious stones, such as the diamond, after being exposed to the sun's light, continue to give out light for some time when taken into a dark room. So with plaster of Paris. A compound of calcium, barium, and strontian has the same power of absorbing and retaining light as the diamond, the simple element of which is carbon. Having made experiments with these three substances, the Professor next referred to the "velocity" of light. The velocity of light has been measured in three different ways. In two instances it has been presented to us by the phenomena of eclipses, but the third test is independent of astronomical phenomena. This latter test, which Professor Guthrie minutely described, is by observing the different effects produced by light applied to a wheel with cogs and open spaces between, when the wheel is revolved at different rates of velocity. When the wheel is revolved at a certain rate the light strikes the cogs and its passage is obstructed, but when the wheel is revolved at a different rate the light strikes the openings and passes through, illuminating the background—a mirror. "Three times the rate, and darkness ensues; four times the rate, and the light becomes visible again." That is one of the ways of measuring the velocity of light, and in that way it has been calculated that light travels at the rate of about 200,000 miles in a second. The experiment has so far confirmed the old astronomical calculation, the difference being about 10,000 miles in the second, which is but a small percentage of difference when we consider the enormous total. Coming to another branch of his subject, Professor Guthrie reminded his audience that light, like heat, when it strikes a body, may be reflected, absorbed, or transmitted; but in the case of light we have more to do with reflection and transmission than with absorption, which is not the case with regard to heat. "A ray of light," he pointed out, is but a mere geometrical definition, a convenient phrase to signify a portion of light taken in the direction of the light's motion, whilst "a beam of light" is a collection of such rays. A ray of light is an indefinitely thin prism of light, and is to light what a straight line is to a rectangular parallelogram. A beam of light is a collection of rays, not necessarily parallel. A ray of light has neither thickness nor shape; a beam of light has both. If a ray of light strikes a reflecting surface, it makes the same angle with the surface after reflection as it did before. In other words, the angle of incidence is equal to the angle of reflection. Again, the ray before reflection, the ray after reflection, and the perpendicular to the surface are all in one plane. This law of reflection the lecturer illustrated in various ways. Take, for example, a tree by the side of a lake, reflected in the water. Take a leaf of that tree reflected in the water. The ray of light from the leaf strikes the water, and in order to reach your eye it must strike the water at such a point that the angle of incidence is equal to the angle of reflection. It is this ray you see when you look at the reflection of the leaf in the water. So with regard to every part of the object you see reflected, and it is owing to this law of reflection that you see the image of the tree inverted. When the light which a body gives off enters the eye the body appears to be in the direction of the light which enters the eye. It follows from the law of reflection that when an object is seen in a plane mirror it appears to be as far behind the mirror as it is really before it. When a ray of light passes the boundary surface between two media the direction of the ray is altered. Such alteration is called "refraction." The amount to which a ray of light is refracted when it passes from one medium into another depends upon the nature of the medium which it leaves and also upon that of the medium which it enters. Water, for instance, refracts more than air, and a liquid containing bisulphate of carbon refracts more than water. The power of refracting the ray is represented by the "refractive index" of the substance. If a ray pass from the air into glass it is, on entering the glass, bent towards the perpendicular to the glass's surface. If the ray pass from glass into air it is bent from that perpendicular. If the surface of a piece of glass be properly curved, rays which enter on one side may be so refracted that they all meet in one point after quitting the glass on the other side. Such a piece of glass is a lens, and the point at which the rays meet is its focus. According to the shape of the lens, converging rays may be made parallel, parallel rays may be made to diverge, and so on. A true optical image is a collection of foci each of which corresponds to a point of the object.

GREAT ACTIVITY IS SHOWN AT WOOLWICH ARSENAL in the manufacture of heavy cannon for naval service and coast defences, and other material of war. The colonies and out stations are being supplied with the newest designs of guns; and skilled workmen have for some time been engaged in making experiments during the night-time with torpedoes.

THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY into the charges of insobriety brought against the Vicar of Leamington resumed its sittings on Monday, the Bishop of Worcester having declined to sanction the arrangements previously made, by which the proceedings were adjourned sine die. The Vicar repudiated the accusations, but the Commissioners found that there was a prima facie case for carrying the investigations further.

MODEL TRAINING-SCHOOL FOR PAUPER CHILDREN.

No readier and surer training-school for paupers than the workhouse can well be imagined. The London pauper child, caught young, used to be reared in the workhouse, amidst all its deteriorating influences, taught no trade, educated in the most absurdly imperfect manner, and trained inevitably to look upon the workhouse as its proper home and entitled refuge. With such an upbringing there was no springboard for an effort at self-help; pauperism was regarded as a normal condition, and successive batches of paupers were reared to remain paupers till the time came for them to be buried, having in the interim become the parents of others whose heritage was pauperism. An important step towards the remedying of this miserable state of things was taken when the Act 7 and 8 Vict., cap. 101, was passed, authorising the Poor-Law Board to combine unions and parishes into districts for the purpose of providing and maintaining schools for the educational and industrial training of pauper children under sixteen years of age. One of the results of this Act was the formation of the South Metropolitan School District, followed by the erection of a large edifice near Sutton for the accommodation of the pauper children of Greenwich, St. Olave's, and Woolwich Unions, and Camberwell parish. This South Metropolitan District School is now the largest pauper school in the south of England, its inmates numbering no fewer than 1277 children, of whom 704 are boys and 573 girls. The school is in the hands of a board of management, consisting of delegates from the unions and parishes to which it affords accommodation. The building, which was opened in 1855, is a large, and by no means ugly, structure, standing on the top of a gentle elevation, and in the midst of sixty acres of arable land, which is tilled wholly by the labour of the establishment. Under the superintendence of the bailiff, the children dig, plant, and weed; and that they have had some success in horticulture is evident by the fine crop of cabbages on the slope in front of the building. The children, who are admitted on orders signed by the clerks to the respective boards of guardians, are divided into three classes—boys above seven and under sixteen, girls of the same age, and children of both sexes under seven—the latter forming the infant school. At present all classes are accommodated under the same roof, but a large new building is in course of erection, into which, when finished, are to be transferred the children under seven. The aim of the school is, as we have said, both educational and industrial training, and the order of the internal arrangements is very well adapted for giving to each its fair share of attention. The hour of rising is half-past six. The boys have an hour in the shops, from seven to eight; breakfast and recreation from eight to nine; schools or shops from nine to twelve, there being two divisions, who go to school and to work on alternate days; dinner from twelve to one; shops from one to five, or school from two to five, on alternate days; supper at six, and bed at seven. In the case of the girls, housework takes the place of the shops in which the boys are engaged. The trades taught are various—tailoring, shoemaking, baking, painting, &c.; and there are regular workshops, with a master workman in each, who initiates his youthful pupils in the mysteries of each particular trade. By its own labour the establishment keeps itself in bread, boots, and clothes; and some of the boys become quite skilled artisans before they go out into the world. Then the farm work engages the labour of others. There is a staff of cowboys, who tend the twenty-eight cows which supply the milk for the establishment, and which are ultimately fattened and slaughtered on the premises; and the extensive piggery has its own corps of youthful pig-minders.

In the school an education of a plain, useful character is given; and thus, what with the industrial and educational treatment combined, when the time comes for the youngster to go out into the world, which the management, for economical reasons, makes as early as possible consistently with consideration, he can look the world that is before him fairly in the face, conscious of having acquired some capacity to cope with it. Many go at once into positions where they earn money; others are apprenticed for a term. There is no lack of applications either for boys or for girls; but the demand is the keener for the latter, who are much sought after as domestic servants. The management have two excellent rules—first, that no girl is to be allowed to go into service on lower wages than two shillings a week; and, secondly, that satisfactory evidence must be given of the respectability of those to whom the girls are intrusted as servants. They have, and they exercise, the power to take any girl or boy back, after having been sent out, up to the age of sixteen; and it is a portion of the duty of the Chaplain to visit the girls who are out at service, and to report on them to the managers; a friendly connection being thus often maintained long after the period of legal control has terminated. The boys, too, when out in the world, often revisit the school-home of their childhood, or write letters of grateful remembrance to the schoolmaster. There is only one class of boys in especial, whom this gentleman reports he has been able in many cases to influence for years after leaving the school, such influence being made manifest in their frequent and affectionate letters. The class he alludes to is the friendless orphan musicians, who, trained in the schools, are sent into the Army to join the regimental bands. Many of these have risen to be non-commissioned officers. One has left his regiment and become a military student of the Madras Civil Engineering College. Another writes from Japan that he is half way through Colenso's algebra, and is making progress in mensuration and trigonometry. A fourth in Natal has received a certificate testifying that he has a competent knowledge of arithmetic, geography, and history, with considerable knowledge of several branches of mathematics.

A certain percentage of the children, both boys and girls, are retained in the school as pupil teachers, whence they go to the Training College, and almost invariably take good positions in the examinations, and become successful teachers. Many of those who were educated in the Sutton schools are now in good positions in the world. The other day an application for some boys to join fishing-smacks was sent in by a former boy, who is now a smack-owner. A walk round the schools is a genuine pleasure, whether it is taken at a time when the scholars are in school, and the artificers are busy hammering or stitching in the workshops, or during the hours of recreation, when the play-yards swarm with merry, rosy children, and ring again with glad-some din. And the "infant school" is a sight by itself, whether we drop into it when the tiny, young ones are under the hands of the mistresses, in the midst of a romp, or while the little ones are singing one of the simple tunes in which their child-voices mingle so charmingly. Of course dinner is a great event. It is partaken of in a huge room, 120 ft. long, the girls occupying one half, the boys the other. The fare is good and plentiful. The superintendent has recently introduced Australian tinned meat in the shape of Irish stew. The palate of the Sutton youth is not so epicurean as that of the inmates of the Marylebone Workhouse. The Australian Irish stew is a great success, and on a single dinner of it there is a saving of £3 as compared with ordinary ration meat. Nor has the Australian meat at all increased the mortality, which is very low, not quite three fourths of a child in the thousand.—*Daily News.*

STATUE TO GEORGE KINLOCH.—Last Saturday afternoon the Right Hon. Lord Kinnsaird unveiled at Dundee a statue which had just been erected to commemorate the political life of George Kinloch, of Kinloch, who, in consequence of his intrepid advocacy of political rights, was compelled to flee the country nearly forty years ago. Great difficulties were at the first thrown in the way of erecting the statue, but ultimately the Town Council gave a site. The work was executed by Mr. Steel. Some 20,000 persons witnessed the ceremonial, which passed off with the greatest *éclat*. Lord Kinnsaird in a long speech eulogised the efforts which George Kinloch had made to secure political freedom, and said that the memorial which had been raised was a suitable public recognition of his great and important services. A banquet afterwards took place, at which the Provost of the town proposed the memory of Mr. Kinloch, which was drunk in solemn silence. Sir John Ogilvie, M.P., the Hon. Charles Carnegie, M.P., and others, spoke.

THE

DILKE DEMONSTRATION IN TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.

One of the most crowded open-air meetings held in London for many years took place on Monday evening in Trafalgar-square, the purpose of expressing sympathy with Sir Charles Dilke, upholding freedom of speech, and generally asserting the right of public meeting. Lime lights were displayed from the balustrades in front of the National Gallery, and the whole of the space between them and the Nelson Column was filled with a dense mass of people, who throughout the proceedings conducted themselves in the most decorous and orderly manner. The various processions began to arrive at seven o'clock, and poured in continuously until eight. They were accompanied by banners with inscriptions at the tops of the poles, and bearing a variety of Republican inscriptions. One of the banners, a small white one, bore the inscription, "Three cheers for Sir C. Dilke and a Republic." At the base of the column a Republican flag had been set up, and at the corners were standard-bearers with red flags. Mr. Olger arrived punctually at the time appointed for the meeting, and was greeted with loud and prolonged cheering. The business at once commenced, amid the surging noise that is generally noticed at the most orderly open air meetings. The chairman began by stating that the object of their presence there that evening was to assert the right of freedom of speech and to make their representative system as pure and as purely representative as possible. Associations had, he said, sprung up in different parts of the country with these objects. These associations had held meetings at which addresses had been delivered by eminent public men; and everywhere the right of Democracy to be heard as well as Liberals, Conservatives, Whigs, or Radicals, was maintained. He would not for a moment prevent the Conservatives from hearing Lord Derby or Mr. Disraeli, but the Democrats were not treated with the same jocundity. Sir C. Dilke had been accused of insulting her Majesty; but he (Mr. Olger) contended that Sir C. Dilke had not offended the Queen nor anyone else, nor had he intended insult. Mr. Barnes, of the *Leeds Mercury*, had gone great lengths in condemning Sir C. Dilke; but who was Mr. Barnes himself? In 1831 Mr. Barnes proposed a resolution against the Queen. They were not to be taken aback by the statements of such persons. Sir C. Dilke went to Leeds and repeated all that he had said before. Five hundred Tories were present, and sought to break up the meeting, but five thousand persons holding Republican principles were also there, and told them they had better not. They wanted to hold the present meeting in a hall, but were prevented and circumvented everywhere, and that was the reason why they were then assembled in Trafalgar-square. They did not seek to enforce their arguments with bludgeons and brick-bats, but by word, reason, and argument, and the intrinsic soundness of their principles. Their opponents declined to meet them, and that he took to be the best possible argument in their (the Republicans') favour. What they advocated was the abolition of all hereditary titles or systems or legislators. After some further observations, Mr. Olger apologised for brevity, on account of the lateness of the hour, commenting in strong terms on the conduct of his opponents; and Mr. Wynne, plasterer, moved, and Mr. Le Lubec seconded, the first resolution:—"That this meeting, believing that the unhampered exercise of the right of free speech to discuss any political or social subject is an absolute essential to the condition of liberty in any country, hereby expresses its fixed determination to use every legitimate means in its power to prevent the recurrence of those scenes which, to the disgrace of this country, have been enacted at Bolton, Reading, Derby, and elsewhere." The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Shipton moved, and Mr. Longmead seconded, the second resolution:—"That this meeting is of opinion that the conduct of certain magistrates of Bolton deserves the gravest censure in not affording due protection to a constitutional meeting of peaceful citizens from the attacks of a mob of armed ruffians; although informed that riot and murder were taking place, and earnestly requested to send a force necessary to stop it. And this meeting calls upon the Home Secretary to remove such magistrates from the bench, which they disgrace;" which was also carried unanimously.

The third resolution—"That this meeting is of opinion that no real step in the path of political progress can be taken until all 'hereditary privileges' in the State are totally abolished; and therefore the warmest thanks of this meeting are due, and are hereby tendered, to Sir Charles Dilke, M.P., for having given voice to popular opinion on this subject; and for his having had the manly courage to overcome the prejudices of his order and speak out plainly on the question of Royal abuses"—was moved by Mr. Wade, seconded by Mr. Weston, and carried amid great cheering.

A PUBLIC MEETING was held, on Tuesday night, in Huddersfield, to consider the Queen's Speech in its relation to financial reform. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Liverpool Financial Reform Association. A resolution was passed expressing regret that in the Queen's Speech no pledge was given that the national expenditure should be reduced.

CATHEDRAL REFORM.—A meeting, consisting of eleven Archbishops and Bishops, nineteen Deans, and twenty-seven Canons, was held on Tuesday, by the request of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, at Lambeth Palace—the Archbishop of Canterbury presiding. Two resolutions were proposed—one to the effect that it is desirable to extend the powers conferred by Act 3 and 4 Vic., cap. 113, on cathedral chapters and their visitors, of introducing alterations in their statutes, subject to the approval of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England and her Majesty in Council; the other recommending that each cathedral chapter be requested to suggest to its visitor any such additions to, or alterations and modifications of, their existing statutes as would increase the efficiency and usefulness of its cathedral. The meeting adjourned till five o'clock, and was adjourned to an early day, hereafter to be named by his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury.

A PERILOUS VOYAGE.—The Britannia, one of the Anchor line of steamers sailing between Glasgow and New York, arrived at New York on Jan. 23, after an extraordinary and perilous voyage of thirty-two days; and it is generally conceded by nautical men that the passage of the Britannia is the longest on record from port to port. On Dec. 23 the steamer left Glasgow with a full cargo and ninety passengers, and the weather continued favourable until Christmas Day, when a fearful gale sprang up, and at midnight increased to a hurricane—the ship labouring heavily, and taking on board immense volumes of water. During the night two of the life-boats were stove, and one of the sailors was seriously injured by being crushed against the taftail by a tremendous sea. On the 26th the storm increased, accompanied by snow and sleet; and such was the state of the rigging that the sailors were unable to furl the sail, the result being that they were torn to shreds by the force of the wind and tempest. On the 27th a mountainous wave struck the vessel at noon, and Captain Mc'Clellan, who was on the bridge at the time, was nearly washed overboard, whilst two men narrowly escaped being drowned by clinging to the cables near the mizzenmast. The 29th and 30th found the Britannia struggling with the gales, with engines at half speed, and the water at times plunging down the companionway and submerging the cabin floor. The passengers during this time exhibited the wildest terror, and, imagining that the ship was going down, resisted all efforts to keep them below until the storm lashed. On New Year's Day another fearful hurricane set in. The hatches were battered down, and none but the captain, officers, and crew were permitted on deck. At two o'clock several sailors were sent to the jibboom to secure the anchor and fix the sails. The captain and the chief officer were standing on the bridge at the time, when suddenly, and before they had an opportunity to escape it, a tremendous wave engulfed the ship. Captain Mc'Clellan and the first officer were severely injured, and the sailors were swept along the deck as far back as the cabin, and had to be taken below to have their wounds dressed. The captain and the chief mate were still suffering from their injuries when the steamer reached New York. For thirteen days after this the weather continued tempestuous, and the ship received large quantities of water on the deck, which swept down into the cabin and steerage apartments, rendering the condition of the passengers intolerable in the extreme. On Jan. 15 the coal began to give out, while the storm was still raging, and to heighten the calamity the provision-grew scarce. The result was that stragglery in giving out water was necessary, and the speed of the vessel was also checked. Another trouble that assailed the officers in the face was the difficulty of gaining an observation, for the sun had been obscured for days, and consequently they did not know where they were drifting, except by dead reckoning. On the 16th, however, the storm abated; the sun was visible; and at six o'clock in the evening the Britannia reached the port of Halifax. Here the revictualling and coaling were accomplished, and after five days of exceedingly rough weather she reached New York on the 23rd ult.

SIR WILLIAM GULL ON MEDICAL SCIENCE.

At the last meeting of the Clinical Society of London in the president, Sir William Gull, delivered an address which is the subject of much remark in the medical world. After asking for the indulgence of the society for the absence of any prepared address—for which it had been impossible to find time—the president observed that the clinical workers had a special position and work in the economy of the world, to make that world in some measure a better one. They did not regard it like the theologians, as a world which had once been better and was now decaying; but to them it was an improving world, physically, morally, intellectually. In some sense they were the optimists of nature, believing in a future perfection for it, and believing that disease, deformity, and premature death were the failure of a law which in their hearts they felt to be better than they had any knowledge of. They believed in progress—that to-morrow would be better than to-day, and the day after better still, like a convalescent, whose last days were always his best. Some thought that the limits of development of the human intellect had been reached; but they, as students of nature, believed that a new world would open, incommensurable with that which was now considered scientific. Beyond the line of the measurable and ponderable was a vast realm to be explored and gathered into the kingdom of science. Yet they were no worshippers of nature; or, if they were, their worship was a limited one. Their divinity was not a perfect divinity, and it was their object as a society to try and remedy the imperfection which they found in nature. Nothing to a worker was so important as a clear view of the object on which he worked, and the speaker believed that one of the great advances of clinical medicine was that they were gaining, year by year, what might be called a more thorough physiological view of disease—a view which regarded it as a perversion of those physiological processes which constitute in normal conditions the state of health. They had ceased to regard disease as an entity engrafted from without, and could no longer speak, like the old lecturer, of "acute idiopathic disease in a healthy subject." Disease in its essential nature depended on processes so identical with those which underlie the normal phenomena of life, that, could it be regarded apart from the conditions of comfort or discomfort, disease could hardly be said to exist. But if they were to tell the public that there was no such thing as disease they would hardly be believed, and the practical view was that which, as medical men, they had to take. Disease, then, had no stated definite nature that could be taken up and handled in a definition. It was a perversion of normal processes, a series of phenomena, a course of nature in the individual. Thus the beginning of disease must be sought in a series of processes extending so far back that they could hardly be said to have a beginning. To the ignorant and charlatan, on the other hand, it was an entity to be found out and attacked. Such, too, was the old idea, and it had given to them a word still in use—seizure. The patient was seized, according to the old notion, by an evil spirit, according to the modern popular idea by a disease, a something *ab extra*, to be got out again. But to them disease was a life process of a perverted kind. This view of the nature of disease would show that many things formerly regarded as diseases could not be so considered. They were not perverted, but normal life processes. Some persons were born to be ill without having a definite disease. They could not get on, in the present state of things, with comfortable equilibrium. Tonic after tonic was tried in vain, and no wonder, for it was as natural for them to be ill as for another person to be well. In practical medicine the recognition of this was very important. Again, the natural degenerations of age ought not to rank as diseases any more than death. Yet we attempted to arrest those degenerations; we gave all sorts of drugs—to do what? To try and prevent a sunset. Because the sun was setting in this tissue and in that, the individual must be medicated. There were changes produced by diseases which were hardly more accurately called diseases than were the degenerations of age. Such, for instance, was the blight on all the tissues sometimes left by syphilis. The disease might be cured, but the tissue changes persisted and carried the individual down in spite of treatment. The study of the numerous morbid agencies was another important subject for their attention, especially how and when they begin to operate on the body. Little was known of this, though more than they knew twenty years ago. Where did scarlet-fever poison begin to act? On the blood? It might well be doubted, for the organs that received most blood were not those that suffered most. Comparative pathology might tell them a good deal on this subject, and much too on another matter—namely, the presence in their bodies of organs which, so far as they could see, were useless, but which seemed to be entailed upon them by the peculiar line of ancestry through which they had come. All parts not highly physiological were frequent seats of disease. Every part, however, had its own life, and probably its own function; and it might be hoped that the new Brown Institute for comparative pathology might teach them more about diseases of different tissues, more about liability to disease and the influences that determine the course the morbid process shall take. Proceeding to the subject of diagnosis, the President observed that of the first importance was the diagnosis of the possible and the impossible. Happily the line of demarcation between the two is always changing—the impossible of to-day became the possible of to-morrow. Still there was always a practical impossible, and its recognition would obviate vain attempts to do that which could not be accomplished.

Such were the attempts he had just spoken of—attempts to make strong those naturally weak, to infuse into them more life than they had capacity for. To endeavour to do that was as hopeless a task as to try to put a quart into a pint measure, or to rectify the stator of the short, as a recent advertisement proposed. That diagnosis of the possible and the impossible might be greatly aided by work done by members of that society. The importance of physical diagnosis was next alluded to. All were alive to its value, and to the assistance to be derived from new methods, and no method was to be hastily rejected because it might seem at first to contradict the results of clinical experience, as even the thermometer still sometimes might do. It was necessary to wait patiently, and to work out the wider law that should regulate their use. Of less value was the more refined vital diagnosis by the knowledge that could not be gained by weights and measures, but came from experience. Physical diagnosis might inform them of the existence of pneumonia, but the vital diagnosis was needed to tell them what course the pneumonia would run, whether acute or chronic, and in what way it would end. It could not be doubted that many results ascribed to treatment depended rather on the vital dynamics of the case than on the remedy used. It was probably so with many of the cases of alleged cure of phthisis by cod-liver oil and other modes of treatment. Only that week the speaker had had to strive to make one of the finer vital diagnosis of the normal and abnormal workings of the human brain. He could not help protesting against the idea that a single act or crime must not be accepted as evidence of disease. A rope was tested and broke, the breakdown was the first evidence of its weakness. A man was walking uphill, and spitting of blood occurred—the first signs of aortic regurgitation. The rope was weak before, the man had disease before; but there was no evidence of weakness or disease until the strain and breakdown came. Many persons lived a steady equable life who would go to pieces upon the least strain on body or mind. To the assertion that the profession were not specially qualified for such inquiries, he could only reply that, if they were not, they had themselves to blame, since the methods of vital diagnosis they were always employing were essentially the same as the finer kind required in such a case. Finally, the study of diagnosis alone would hardly satisfy either the public or themselves, and therapeutics was the end of their work. They were sometimes twitted with being blind worshippers of Nature, and told that they studied, as Goethe said, "the greater and the lesser world, to let it be in the end as God willed." But they believed

that God's will was that they should be wise; and when they said ("nihil believed that their profession was behind none in saying) "Thy will be done," they regarded it not as a passive will to be endured, as a Brahmin or Mohammedan endured his destiny, but as an active will to be found out and done, and they held that will was that they should try in this great world of disorder to put something right, that something bequeath to them the law of health for each man. Nature was not at all times an object for worship, but was sometimes to be opposed and thwarted by all means possible. A professor once observed, when told that the evacuations of cholera were curative efforts of Nature, "I will tell you what Nature wants—she wants to put the man in his coffin." But they knew that there was a centripetal tendency in the body whereby diseases tended to get well, and that tendency to the recovery of disturbed equilibrium could not have too much attention paid to it. Its recognition might save from many fancied cures which were not cures at all. The underlying physiological process and its tendencies should engage their chief attention, and not the external superficial symptoms. This was the case with the complications of fever. In teaching medicine he used to tell the students to see the complications of fever as Nelson saw the signal to retire—with his blind eye—but to watch the underlying fever process with the most acute perception. They should consider carefully the uninhabited course of maladies; and those which had no tendency to terminate must, if possible, be brought to a termination by artificial means. They must remember that though disease got well, the patient might die; and pay attention to every point in the treatment and management of maladies. Nothing in therapeutics was so low or trivial as to be unworthy the attention of the society—no minutiae unimportant in the treatment of disease. And to the surgeon it might be that a new sphere of activity would be presented in the removal in early life of superfluous parts. To all a new world of promise opened, and he invited the members of the Clinical Society to enter upon it with as industrious hands and as true hearts as they could command.

THAMES SEWERAGE COMMISSION.

MR. BAZALGETTE, C.B., submitted his plan for the drainage of towns and parishes abutting on the Thames to a meeting in the Assize Court, at Kingston, the other day. Mr. Peck, M.P., took the chair, and, in opening the proceedings, said that tickets had been sent to all places concerned in the question of Thames sewerage, and he was glad to see so large an attendance. He then called on Mr. Bazalgette to make his statement, premising that it would be well for the assembly to postpone comment or criticism till the matter was fully before them. Two or three gentlemen present, however, raised a preliminary discussion as to whether it was not desirable to have the names of individual promoters of the scheme openly stated before anything else was done. There was, indeed, an unmistakable appearance of opposition, if not a strong element of discord in the meeting; and Mr. Bazalgette's explanations of his plan, assisted by a large chart, were met at certain periods with sounds of dissent or of ironical applause. He observed that the pollution of the river has increased since the evil was recognised by Parliament in 1866, and was partially dealt with by the Thames Navigation Act. The locality was becoming more and more densely populated, and was not suited to the establishment of sewage-farms. The plan he had to submit was one which could only be considered at that time as a general outline, and he desired to be permitted to reserve details. He proposed a system of branch sewers, beginning at the point where the Metropolitan Board of Works ceased jurisdiction, and converging on a spot near Hampton. The flow of sewage is more rapid, and as a consequence ventilation is more perfect, by combined than by separate drainage. Mr. Bazalgette's plan includes a pumping-station near Chertsey, by means of which the sewage is discharged on a sandy tract of land close to Chobham. It was this part of the scheme which, notwithstanding the appeal of the chairman, provoked much running comment of an unfavourable character. Irrigation was a subject incidentally touched on by Mr. Bazalgette, who said the profits, he had estimated, as a result of this part of his scheme, were low. It was rather a sanitary than a commercial question. To the objections that the flow of sewage water along five miles of the Bourne into the Thames would be pernicious, he referred to Mr. Keates, the analytical chemist, who was present, as an authority for his argument that sewage water is capable of being easily purified. But should all arguments fail to convince the public of this fact, there was still the resort of a culvert, the only objection to which was the expense. Though the plan lucidly described by Mr. Bazalgette was not found universally acceptable by the meeting, it obtained many supporters; and when its details are better understood the opposition may, it is thought, diminish.

ADVENTURE OF THE CZAR AT A BEAR-HUNT.

In our last week's Number we published a paragraph containing intelligence that the Emperor of Russia had had a narrow escape during a bear-hunt, in consequence of a sudden attack made by an enormous bear, which rushed out of the wood at the moment that his Majesty was approaching. The Russian black bear is so formidable an antagonist that, had the Emperor lost his self-possession, the consequences might have been very serious; but the Czar is a cool hand, and met Master Bruin with a shot that so disconcerted him as to give time for the rest of the hunting-party to come up and make a trophy of the monster who had intended to make a meal of an Emperor.

DR. JOHN MUIR, of Edinburgh, has presented to the Senatus Academicus of the University of Edinburgh a sum of £100 to be given as a prize to the candidate who shall manifest the highest proficiency in the examination for the degree of Doctor of Science, in the department of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology. The competition will be open to graduates in arts by examination (if not more than seven years' standing) of any British or recognized Colonial University.

M.P.'S AND COURT DRESS.—Mr. P. A. Taylor, in a letter to the *Daily News*, suggests the election of a new Speaker affords a fitting opportunity for reconsidering the propriety of compelling members of Parliament to appear in Court dresses, or not at all, at the Speaker's levees. Mr. Taylor says he is one of the very few who have thought fit to enter his practical protest against this custom by depriving himself of the honour of attending on these occasions. One new ground of objection Mr. Taylor urges is this: We are now living under a household-suffrage regime. We may certainly anticipate the probability that some "working men" will find their way into the House. It is quite certain that they will not content to turn themselves and their class into the semblance of Court lackeys. Is it politic to set up one additional class distinction within the walls of Parliament?

HARD LINES.—The experiences of a pork-butcher's shopboy, named Broche, who has just been tried by court-martial at Versailles, are well worth a passing record. On the outbreak of the Communal Insurrection, he was taken—much against his will—from the salo of sausages to serve in a Federal battalion of National Guards at Neuilly. Here he incurred the ill-will of his comrades by his refusal to accept the rank of captain. He was accordingly tried and sentenced to be shot. The men interested with his execution decided—by way of a change, perhaps—to hang the unfortunate Broche instead of shooting him; and he was, accordingly, launched into space from a first-floor window. He contrived, however, to cling to the wall, and so to avoid total strangulation, until cut down by some men of another battalion, who took pity on him and disengaged the unlamented mode of execution adopted. Broche, however, only remained two days with his new friends. At the end of that time he attempted to escape, but was so closely pursued that he jumped into the Seine, and swam to the bank occupied by the Versailles troops, who hospitably received him with a hailstorm of balls, one of which struck him in the leg. Being taken before a court-martial of officers of the regular army, his protestations of innocence were disbelieved, and he was condemned for the second time to be shot. The executioners of M. Thiers, however, did not do their work any better than those of the Commune, for though duly shot and left for dead, Broche escaped with two flesh wounds and a broken arm. He was hidden and nursed by an inhabitant of Puteaux, where he had been shot, and when the Commune fell was again arrested and taken to Versailles, where he appears to have passed the last eight months in prison. Being tried a few days ago for the third time, the unlucky and yet lucky pork butcher was at once acquitted.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.



DANGEROUS ADVENTURE OF THE CZAR DURING A BEAR HUNT.



CHAMELEONS.

CHAMELEONS.

FOLLOWING the group of flying squirrels of which we last week presented an Engraving is an interesting family of chameleons represented in our present number. There are few objects in natural history which have excited more controversy or challenged more scientific observation than this queer little Saurian. Even in the domain of verse he has become quite familiar, as most of us remember the celebrated dispute—once a famous recitation for boys going home for the holidays—where two friends come to high words about the colour of the changeable little reptile, which is green and brown and all kinds of hues within an hour, and so give rise to the famous satisfactory paradox of the mutual acquaintance who comes in as arbiter, and leaves after the manner of arbiters, by declaring “You both are right and both are wrong.”

The fact is, this extraordinary faculty of changing colour is still matter of dispute. A few people deny it altogether, while others attribute it to entirely different causes. There are advocates for the theory that the deep inspirations of which the little lizard is capable, because of its having no breast-bone, serve to inflate it to such a degree as to induce a kind of semi-transparency and power of reflecting colours; others again rely upon the discovery of two moveable layers or laminae of pigment beneath the skin, and the effect of the relative position of these layers in producing the appearance of colour. It is not everybody who has seen much change, and you may watch for hours and find no difference, while the usual alteration is from a dingy brown to a greenish or yellowish tinge. The most startling peculiarity of the chameleon is its long prehensile tongue, and the swiftness with which it projects it to absorb a fly or any small insect, easily discovered in almost any direction by the amazing extent of the orbit in which that prominent eye can move. The contrast of this swift motion of the tongue, with the slowly-rolling optic and the almost motionless lethargy of the fleshless armour-plated little wretch, is very striking. Probably the chameleon is capable of swifter motion. Its fasciculated feet, its long vertebrate tail, seem to suggest powers not only of holding on and climbing, but of rapid evolution; but we have never seen it go even at a snail's pace. It is the very symbol of indifference. It licks up a fly less as if it liked the process than as though it did so as a faint protest against the troublesome activity of flies in general; and when it changes colour it does so, as it were, inadvertently, and then seems to wish it hadn't gratified human curiosity by doing it. They are suggestive little beasts, these chameleons, and were once favourite possessions of young naturalists. In Egypt they are even now a kind of domestic pet; but there they, perhaps, answer a useful purpose in their antipathy to insects, and may be more disposed to display their accomplishments.

WIT OF THE WEEK.

SIPS OF “PUNCH.”

NEVER MIND, though in two hundred millions or more,
We be cast by perverse arbitration,
For “the People” will have to pay none of the score;
‘Twill be all raised by partial taxation.
O ye million, those millions will touch none of you,
That income-tax pay not a penny;
To discharge Alabama claims fear not the “screw”
Will be put on “the Masses” and “Many.”

THE PUBLICANS have for some time taken to selling tea, on the plea of “Defence, not Defiance.” There is another article of grocery which Bung might also vend, and that appropriately—Tap-tea.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The Great Titchborn Trial has, by order of the Claimant, been removed from Common Pleas Court to the Sessionshouse of Clerkenwell. The jury have been sitting for 180 days, and some of them have never shaved since entering the box. By Act of *corpus habeas*, they are locked up every evening directly after dinner, and their cigars are all extinguished, by law of fire insurance, at the striking of nine hours.

A CURIOUS CANINE COINCIDENCE may, possibly, escape the readers' notice. At the recent dog-show held in Dublin there were 365 dogs exhibited, a dog for each day in the year, illustrating the philosophical proverb, “Every dog has his day.”

BITS OF “FUN.”

WHICH I wish to observe—
And my language is clear—

That for coolness and nerve,
And demands that run dear,

Uncle Sam is a little eccentric, which the term's not a bit too severe.

Ah, Sam is his name,
And quite ready I am

To admit that his aim
Is to make me “stand Sam”—

But his bill is a trifle expensive, and I don't care to pay for that same.

LIFE is a contradiction! We send to our butcher for a sweet-bread; and if we want a sweet-meat we send to our baker.

WET, WET, incessantly wet;

And though you may fret,

Any money I'll bet,

We've not arrived at the end of it yet;

For at “foul,” not “fair,” is the weather set,

As you'll see, on consulting the glass, a threat

Of wet, wet, wearisome wet!

Of which we shall very likely get

Such immense sums, nett,

As would “liquidate” wholly the national debt.

GIBES FROM “JUDY.”

LEMON-AID.—The Mark Lemon Fund.

THE REPUBLICANS are dead against monarchs, yet nearly all the pleasure they get they derive from three kings—viz., smo-king, drin-king, and tal-king.

A CASE OF ENORMOUS STRENGTH.—A mere boy has been known to have a box on his ear!

“HORNET” STINGS.

THE TEN HOURS’ BILL.

The factory Acts were in fact *Tory Acts*,

All the credit Conservatives claim,

And justly—a statement which vastly detracts

From our *soi-disant* Liberals’ fame.

THE WOOLSACK.

Not till I get a reply in full,

Will it cease my brains to rack:

What will the Government do with the wool,

When Lord Hatherley gets the sack?

WHAT sort of ladies most resemble crumpets?—Those who are fat fare, and for tea.

THE LOVE-SICK WINDOW.

Chloe her lattice love's to fill—

Where suburbs end in lanes—

With mignonette and daffodil,

And woodbine, which she trains,

Ah, well!—like me, her window's ill

Looks green, and full of panes;

THE THEATRES.

THE ephemeral Christmas pieces will have run their course at the end of February; but “Pygmalion and Galatea,” “The Bells,” “Partners for Life,” and “Caste,” commented on in these columns last week, may be justly expected to continue their successful career. Forthcoming performances deserving of support are the programmes at the St. James’s and Willis’s Rooms respectively for this (Saturday) afternoon and Ash Wednesday. M. Raphael Félix offers “Frou Frou” at the St. James’s for the benefit of the Ladies’ Fund for releasing the occupied departments of France from the Germans. The Dramatic Sick Fund Society, with Mr. Sheriff Bennett as chairman, calls the supporters of the drama to their annual dinner at Willis’s Rooms on that dull evening of the year when the players are forbidden to tread the boards.

The GAIETY programme is of chameleon brilliancy. It is ever fresh and sparkling. Operetta, comic drama, and musical extravaganza have formed this week's attractions. First, there were the tuneful Miss Constance Loseby and the vivacious Miss E. Farren, as Galatea and Ganymede. Last, there was Mr. Gilbert’s “Thespis,” with Middle Clary, Miss Annie Tremaine, and Misses Farren and Loseby again as the singers of Arthur Sullivan’s melodious airs to Mr. Gilbert’s witty songs, and Mr. Toole as the central humorist—Thespis himself. Between these musical pieces came a new one-act comic drama, entitled “Off the Line.” This bright little play is written by Mr. Clement Scott, and is at once so full of mingled humour and pathos as to merit a place of honour among standard acting pieces. “Off the Line” opens with the love-making of Theophilus Puffy, who wins the heart of Mary Coke by a toothsome succession of cakes. The baker’s courtship is interrupted by the return of Harry Coke, accompanied by his half-intoxicated comrade, Jim Brass. Harry Coke has promised to take his wife and his sister Mary to the pantomime, this being Boxing Day, and a holiday for Harry, an engine-driver. Mr. Toole and Mrs. Billington, it need scarcely be said, make of the engine-driver and his wife, Liz, two serious comic characters, who literally evoke laughter and tears at will. Jim Brass has arranged with a domestic servant to accompany him and Harry Coke to the “Vic” that very Boxing Day. The discovery of a letter to this effect in Harry’s pocket arouses the jealousy of Liz. In a touching scene, none the less affecting from being preceded by a series of most humorous situations, Liz upbraids the engine-driver with his faithlessness; and there can be few dry eyes when, just as the first quarrel is about to culminate in a separation, a reconciliation is brought about by one of those touches of emotion which make the whole audience akin. The union of Puffy (comically acted by Mr. Soutar) with Mary (winsomely personated by Miss Florence Farren), brings “Off the Line” to a merry end, and rarely on the actors have heard more genuine applause than that which deservedly greets Mr. Clement Scott’s effective little play.

Not content with the attraction of one of the most mirthful pantomimes of the season, Mr. Shepherd produced at the SURREY, on Monday, a capital melodrama. It is adapted, by Mr. H. P. Grattan, from Mr. Edmund Yates’s novel, “Nobody’s Fortune.” The plot is as sensational as the most enthusiastic lover of sensation could desire. A gold robbery is the incident upon which the play is based. One George Bradstock is the robber convicted of the crime. He escapes from a train, however, gets rid of his fitters, breaks into the Gravesend hotel, and asks a stranger—Frank Scorrer—to connive at his escape, revealing to him, as a bribe, the place where the gold is hidden. Scorrer, indignant at the proposal, grapples with Bradstock; the convict takes up a knife, which is wrested from him, and he himself is left for dead. Scorrer, driven by love to leave England in search of fortune, is on the eve of starting for Australia. By one of those strange coincidences peculiar to the drama, he falls in with and befriends the convict’s wife and child, also *en route* for Australia. Eighteen months after they all return to England, Frank Scorrer, who has not found fortune in the bush, is induced to make use of the proceeds of the gold robbery. The hand of his love, Ellen Wynne, is then claimed by him. But Mrs. Bradstock, the convict’s wife, is likely to get into trouble. A rascally attorney suspects her of having appropriated the money. Scorrer, therefore, confesses his deception. The gold robbery again comes before a magistrate. Frank is accused of the murder of Bradstock. The convict appears in the nick of time to refute this accusation, and the drama ends with the edifying concurrence of Bradstock and his confederate Grogram as to the necessity of reforming their mode of life. As the convict, Mr. Shepherd acts with great vigour and feeling; while the parts of Ellen Wynne, Frank Scorrer, Mrs. Bradstock, and Grogram are creditably sustained by Mrs. Shepherd, Mr. George Warde, Miss Maria B. Jones, and Mr. E. F. Edgar.

MUSIC.

THIS (Saturday) afternoon will be musical, indeed, at the Crystal Palace. Singing birds—1500 of them—are to supplement the usual Saturday Afternoon Concert; larks to vie in song with Madame Lemmens-Sherrington; canaries to pipe in rivalry to the piano-forte-playing of Dr. Ferdinand Hiller.

Special interest attached to the last two Saturday Afternoon Concerts, from the date of each having coincided with that of the anniversary of the birth of a great composer. On Jan. 27, 1767, Mozart was born; and on Feb. 3, 1809, Mendelssohn commenced his earthly career. The programme of Saturday week celebrated the first-named event by commencing with four pieces selected from Mozart’s works, the fine execution of which was noted in the last Number of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES. The pieces performed on Saturday last, in remembrance of the birthday of Mendelssohn, were the overture to his first oratorio, “St. Paul,” produced in 1835; the air, “O God, have mercy,” and “Jerusalem,” both from the same work, sung with much effect—the first by the American basso, Mr. Whitney, the other by Miss Poynett—and the hymn, “Hear my prayer.” This latter piece was composed, in 1844, for soprano solo and chorus, with organ accompaniment, but was afterwards scored by the composer for full orchestra, in which altered shape it was performed last Saturday, when Madame Cora de Wilhorst gave the solo portions with more force than devotional feeling. In the overture and in the hymn Mr. J. Coward presided at the organ with his well-known ability. The miscellaneous portion of last Saturday’s concert commenced with Beethoven’s fifth symphony in C minor—that Leviathan work which marks a fresh stage in the master’s constant progress in the expression of the sublime and the infinite. Madame Cora de Wilhorst sang with much effect the cavatina, “Casta Diva,” from “Norma;” and this was followed by a clever ballet scene, for orchestra and chorus, from Mr. C. Delfel’s opera, “The Corsair.” After a selection from Beethoven’s music to the “Ruins of Athens” (the whole of which was given at a former concert), the programme concluded with Sir J. Benedict’s effectively scored overture to Henrich’s von Kleist’s drama, “Der Prinz von Homburg.” It is scarcely necessary now to comment on the excellence of the orchestral performances, and of the care and judgment of Mr. Manns, the conductor, as exemplified at the concerts above referred to, as these are matters of course at the Crystal Palace.

Madame Schumann has reappeared at St. James’s Hall, as all lovers of the pianoforte will rejoice to hear. This excellent pianiste performs Beethoven’s sonata in E flat at to-day’s Popular Concert, and other sonatas of Beethoven and Mendelssohn at the next Monday Popular Concert.

Mr. Bookey’s next Ballad Concert will be given on Monday afternoon instead of on Wednesday. Mr. Sims Reeves, Madame Sherrington, Madame Patey, Miss Edith Wynne, and Madame Arabella Goddard are to be the attractions.

Ash Wednesday and St. Valentine’s Day will see the usual musical performance at Drury Lane, on this occasion in aid of the funds of the Royal Dramatic College. The Albert Hall and the Gaiety also announce concerts on the same day.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF PAROCHIAL RELIEF.

A MEETING of metropolitan guardians, convened by Mr. Corbett, to confer with him “upon the practical administration of relief and its results in their respective unions,” and to consider suggestions “for imposing certain limitations upon outdoor relief, and the substitution of an efficient workhouse test, especially to all single able-bodied applicants for relief,” together with the recommendations “for more frequent visitations of the poor at their own homes, and the most strict and careful investigation of the circumstances of all paupers to whom outdoor relief is granted,” have agreed upon the following resolutions:—

“That, in the opinion of this conference, greater uniformity should prevail in the administration of relief by the guardians of the several unions and parishes in the metropolitan districts, both as respects the limitation within which outdoor relief should, as a rule, be alone afforded, and the scale upon which it should generally be granted. That it is desirable to substitute, as far as practicable, indoor for outdoor relief to all classes of able-bodied poor, whether relief be required on account of sickness or by alleged want of employment. That outdoor relief should not, except under special circumstances, be granted to able-bodied men, nor to single able-bodied women, either with or without illegitimate children. That outdoor relief should not be granted for more than a fortnight to any woman alleging herself to be deserted by her husband, except upon satisfactory proof of such desertion, nor, except in special cases, to any able-bodied widow without children, or with one child only, after the first six months of her widowhood. That, in special cases of able-bodied widows with more than one child, it may be desirable to take one or more of the children into the separate or district school of the union in preference to giving outdoor relief. That outdoor relief should invariably be granted for a fixed period only, which should not in any case exceed three months. That all orders to able-bodied men for relief in the labour-yard should be given provisionally only by the relieving officers until the next meeting of the guardians, and, if approved, should not be confirmed for more than one month in the first instance. That outdoor relief should not be granted in any case unless the relieving officer has, since the application, visited the home of the applicant, and has recorded the date of such visit, and all the particulars required by the form in the application and report book. That this conference recognises the necessity for insisting on increased attention to the frequent and careful visitation of the poor at their own homes, together with a thorough investigation of all applications for relief as one of the first and most essential steps towards diminishing pauperism. That a record of the visits paid by the relieving officer be kept in a form to be approved by the guardians. That in every case where the pauper does not attend in person to receive the relief ordered by the guardians the relieving officer be required to visit the home of the pauper as soon as possible, and report the fact at the next meeting of the board of guardians, and take their directions thereon. That relieving officers be themselves required to take the relief to such of the outdoor poor as are unable to attend, where such a course is directed by the guardians, and to check as much as possible the practice of passing relief through the hands of strangers and children. That the relieving officer should be required to make at least fortnightly visits to the homes of all able-bodied widows, and of all persons receiving relief on account of temporary sickness, and of all able-bodied men receiving relief in the labour-yard, and to visit the old and infirm cases at least once a month; and the relieving officer should be required to keep a diary, with the dates and results of such visits. That in the most populous unions it may be expedient to appoint one or more officers, to be termed ‘inspectors of out relief,’ whose duty it would be to act as a check upon the relieving officers, and ascertain also the circumstances connected with the recipients of relief. That it be represented to the Local Government Board that, as the recommendations of medical officers are too often regarded as equivalent to orders for additional relief, they should in all cases be accompanied by a report from the medical officer, setting forth the particulars of each case, ascertained after a personal visit to the home of the applicant. That the provisions with respect to the compulsory maintenance of paupers by relatives legally liable to contribute to their support should be carefully acted upon. That this conference desires to record its sense of the benefits which may result from cordial co-operation between the several boards of guardians in the metropolis and the Society for Organising Charitable Relief, and they consider the particular mode in which this may be best effected may be well left to the discretion of guardians. That, while it is impossible to define the precise number of cases which each relieving officer can properly visit and do justice to—as much must depend upon the area and character of the district, much upon the experience and character of the officer, and much upon the character of the cases to be inquired into—this conference is nevertheless of opinion that from 150 to 300 cases is the largest number which can be safely intrusted to any relieving officer without assistance; and it is not expedient that the appointment of an assistant should in any way diminish the obligation of the relieving officer to visit frequently the houses of the poor, to keep himself and the guardians thoroughly informed of their circumstances, and to personally investigate all new applications.”

OBITUARY.

GENERAL BEATSON.—This distinguished officer died on Sunday, at the Vicarage, New Swindon, the residence of the Rev. G. Campbell, aged sixty-seven. General William Ferguson Beatson will be best remembered as having successfully organised the Bashi-Bazouks during the Crimean War. He entered the Bengal army in 1820. Being on furlough, he served with the British Legion in Spain in 1835-6, when he was wounded, for which services he received the Cross of San Fernando. He returned to India in 1837, and was thanked by the Indian Government for the capture of Jigne, in Bundelkhand, in 1840, and Chirgong in 1841. During the Scinde campaign in 1844 he captured the forts and strongholds of Kachwahager. In 1845 he served under Sir Charles Napier in the Boote hills. In July, 1848, he received the approbation of the Government of India for taking the fort of Rymow from the Rohillas. In 1850 and 1851 he was on active service, and in 1854 performed the special service of organising the Bashi-Bazouks. Since then he has held an important command at Umballa, and has only recently returned on leave to England, where, his condition being pronounced precarious, he was recommended to Malta for change of climate. Thence he only last week returned to England to join his only surviving daughter, Mrs. M’Mullan, who has recently lost her husband, Major M’Mullan, whilst on active service in India.

DR. DAY, M.D., F.R.S.—The death is announced of Dr. George Edward Day, formerly professor of medicine and one of the examiners for medical degrees in the University of St. Andrew. The deceased gentleman was born at Tenby, South Wales, in 1815. He was a graduate of Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he took a wrangler’s degree in 1837. He afterwards repaired to Edinburgh, where he also distinguished himself in the various classes. He was dresser and clerk in the infirmary, and gained the gold medal for the best essay on anatomy and physiology for two successive years. In 1843 Dr. Day settled in London, when he was almost immediately elected physician to the Western General Dispensary, in the New-road, and subsequently he held the chair of materia medica in the Middlesex Hospital medical school. He became a member of the Royal College of Physicians in 1844, and in 1848 was elected a Fellow. Dr. Day was one of the founders of the Pathological and Cavendish Societies, and was elected in 1850 a Fellow of the Royal Society.

SIR RICHARD WALLACE has given 7000£. towards the establishment of soup-kitchens for the poor of Paris.

THE TICHBORNE TRIAL.

On the day Parliament opened a noteworthy statement was made in the Westminster Sessions House by the Attorney-General. He asked to be allowed to finish his speech for this week on Thursday instead of Friday, as he had a bill to introduce in the House of Commons. Judge, jury, and opposing counsel graciously accorded permission. Sir John Duke Coleridge then made the following glad statement:

"I cannot make promises, but I will endeavour to shorten my case as much as I consistently can; and I hope and trust it will not be long now before there is some prospect of relieving you from the sound of my voice. A day or two next week, besides what I may have to say during this, will probably bring me to the end of my speech."

The Attorney-General's speech had lasted *fourteen days* on the 1st inst. "Silver-tongued eloquence" has been the epithet applied to the learned gentleman's wondrous flow of speech in speaking of his Parliamentary addresses. That this epithet is scarcely applicable to his present linked satire, long drawn out, is evident from an episode which occurred on the 1st inst. The Chief Justice inquired whether he should interpose suggestions which came into his mind as the case went on, in order that the plaintiff's counsel might explain them before the summing up. Mr. Serjeant Ballantine declined the suggestion, and took occasion to say, warmly, that he would hereafter have his opportunity of meeting and explaining away some cruel imputations which had been cast on certain persons by the Attorney-General, with regard to which, however, he had refrained from interrupting him. The Attorney-General earnestly rejoined that any accusations and comments which were not justified by the text of and the grounds for his observations, he would recall and apologise for, but no others. Mr. Serjeant Ballantine, in the course of the semi-altercation, which was rather heated, remarked that Mr. Locock Webb complained bitterly of things which had been said of him. Eventually the matter, which occupied some time, was ostensibly settled; the Attorney-General saying handsome things of Mr. Serjeant Ballantine, but affirming that he must, in the discharge of his duty, comment on the conduct of the case, and Mr. Serjeant Ballantine answering, "I hope that I have said no more than in my place I am entitled to say under the peculiar circumstances of the case, by which I may not be called upon to address the jury for many months."

The cross-examination of "the claimant" was referred to by the Attorney-General on the 1st inst., up to which date our last week's report left the learned gentleman. On Friday, the 2nd inst., the *eighty-fifth day of the trial*, Sir J. D. Coleridge resumed with undiminished vigour. He began by showing the claimant's ignorance of all matters relating to the college at Stonyhurst, where Roger Tichborne was educated while in England. Many inconsistencies in the plaintiff's evidence were pointed out and compared with known facts in the life of Tichborne. The jury were also reminded that, although the claimant had said he was quite sure he had never been in the Channel Islands, Roger once spent a fortnight there. The plaintiff failed to recognise a photograph of Wardour Castle, and said he was never there, whereas Tichborne was in the habit frequently of visiting the seat in question. Numbers of similar contradictions having been exposed, the learned counsel proceeded to analyse the value of the claimant's military knowledge, and elicited much amusement by the instances which he presented, tending to show how ignorant of all matters relating to the Army was the man who, if his story were correct, was an officer three years. An examination of the claimant's experience of different localities in Ireland, and an elaborate exposition to prove that it was worthless as being of any assistance in making out his case, occupied the greater part of the remainder of the day's speech.

At the resumption of the speech for the defence, on Monday, the Court presented its normal aspect, every available place being occupied. Sir John Taylor Coleridge, father of the Attorney-General, who attended the sittings of the Court during the latter portion of last week, again occupied a seat on the bench. The Attorney-General commented on a great number of statements which had been elicited in the claimant's cross-examination, and contrasted these with the facts which he would prove as having occurred in the life of Roger Tichborne. The plaintiff, in speaking of Miss Hales, of Canterbury, described her as a young lady to whom he had paid his addresses, after having broken off with Miss Doughty. He said he remembered that he used to keep his company of Carabiniers waiting outside Mrs. Hales' house for an hour or two while he paid his addresses to her daughter. Could anything be more ludicrously preposterous than an officer saying that he kept his men outside for a couple of hours while he was courting? But Miss Hales would be called to say the whole story was a cock-and-bull fabrication. She did not know Roger Tichborne, never saw him to her knowledge, and was certainly never engaged to him. The claimant said he never belonged to any other club than the Army and Navy, whereas Roger Tichborne was also a member of the Alfred Club, and while in London spent a considerable portion of his time there. The learned counsel then went on to speak of the "card case at Brighton," which had been more than once previously referred to, and of the circumstances attending the execution of Roger Tichborne's will. On both points he showed many inconsistencies in the claimant's evidence. There was a good deal more of the plaintiff's cross-examination which would have to be dealt with under other heads, such as the imputation upon Mrs. Radcliffe, the sealed packet, and so on, and these parts he would leave for the present, and would come to what the plaintiff had said in reference to Roger leaving London, which, he might say in passing, would be contradicted in various parts. Amidst almost unintermittent merriment, he read some of the communications written by the claimant to Lady Tichborne, in a very amusing quasi-serious manner, enunciating the apostrophe, "My dear mama," which occurs so frequently, with irresistibly comic effect. The ripple of laughter broke into a roar when the learned gentleman read a passage in which, by a slight rhetorical confusion, the claimant prayed that the Blessed Mother would bless and protect his "dear mama" from her affectionate son,

Changing his tone to that of indignation denunciation, the Attorney-General designated as sickening this miserable affectation of affection on the part of a man who had slandered alike the living and the dead. Some of the endless contradictions of the claimant in smaller matters—to use the Attorney-General's words—were briefly dwelt upon, and the learned gentleman said he had now approached the Melipilla case.

On Tuesday the learned gentleman, in resuming his address on the Melipilla part of the case, narrowly criticised the evidence of Moore, who was at first a hostile witness, and argued that it was obtained for material considerations. The Attorney-General then addressed himself to what may be called the Melipilla case proper, and repeated the promise he had made towards the close of Monday's sitting that it would be proved that Roger Tichborne was never at that place. Several of the letters which Roger Tichborne and Moore had written from South America having been referred to and partly read, it was urged that the absence of all mention of Melipilla was the strongest negative proof of the assertion that Roger Tichborne was never even in that village. Hinting with a jocular expression of studied indifference that the jury had already made up their minds that the claimant was Arthur Orton, the learned gentleman said it was not his duty to prove that, or that he was anybody else; all he wanted to show was that the claimant was not Roger Tichborne. It happened, however, that at the time the claimant said he was in Melipilla, as fact Arthur Orton was there. The Castro correspondence, which was then examined, gave the Attorney-General an opportunity of somewhat relieving the monotony of dry details. He sketched with his peculiar humour the mansions of Don Thomas Castro and other residents in Melipilla—whose grandiose Spanish names he pronounced with sufficient attention to vowel sounds to satisfy the proudest Castilian—said mansions containing generally from two to four rooms.

Before the Attorney-General continued his speech on Wednesday, he called upon Mr. Holmes to produce a letter in the hand-writing of the claimant, signed "Arthur Orton," and addressed to his sister, Mrs. Jury. It purported to have been dated from Wagga-Wagga, but was clearly written in England, because it mentioned Stephens, whom the plaintiff never knew until he met him on board the steamer Bella, on the voyage from New York to England. The letter, which was very brief, was produced and read. Mrs. Jury was called, but was unable to produce any other communications with the same signature. Sir John Coleridge then proceeded to correct a statement which he had made on the previous day to the effect that Mr. Philip Rose had retired from the firm of Baxter, Rose, and Norton, the claimant's attorneys. Mr. Rose, according to a letter which he had addressed to the learned counsel, had simply withdrawn from the case. The Attorney-General then denounced in strong terms the "iniquity, injustice, and groundlessness" of the claim to the estates, and毫不hesitatingly asserted that all the lawyers who lent themselves to its prosecution "made themselves accomplices of the people engaged in the fraud." Later in the day, both Sergeant Ballantine and Mr. Giffard, the claimant's leading counsel, emphatically protested against the language of the Attorney-General. The former prayed the Court to protect him from the "endless insinuations" of Sir John Coleridge, while Mr. Giffard "declined to characterise" the passages in which the head of the English Bar had charged himself and Serjeant Ballantine with being accomplices in the prosecution of a fraud. The Attorney-General, however, declined to withdraw anything which he had said.

On Thursday the Attorney-General continued his consideration of the evidence collected by the Chilian Commission, and contended that it all tended to show that Orton and the claimant were one and the same person, and that among other things Roger Tichborne never was at Melipilla, while there could be no doubt that Orton was in that place for some time. Orton—or at least the person whom the Chilian witnesses knew—it appeared, had been given to boasting, and to "prove his high birth" he said that he had been to the same college with the Queen's children. He further said that Orton had bad teeth, although he was so young, and the jury, who had seen the plaintiff's mouth, would form their own opinion upon this point. Orton, it was clear, was given to boasting, and to not telling the truth, in which two circumstances there was certainly a similarity between him and the plaintiff. Perhaps, however, they told the truth sometimes, and they might be like the person who had such a respect for the truth that he only told it on very particular occasions indeed. The learned gentleman, however, said that he did not care twopence whether the claimant was Arthur Orton or not; the whole of the purpose for which he read the evidence was to show that he could not be Tichborne, all the witnesses swearing that they had never known Tichborne, and repudiating altogether the story told by the claimant. This being so, it could be very well understood why the claimant would not face the Chilian witnesses; and Mr. Holmes felt fully the force of this, for upon it happening he threw up the case and retired from it. He (the Attorney-General) had before him a great mass of letters written by Roger, many of which had been read, and many more he should like to read, because he believed that they showed unanswerably that this high-spirited, nice young fellow and the plaintiff could not possibly be the same person. The jury, however, must be weary of hearing letters read. His position, notwithstanding, was this, that he did not know fully what he had to meet, for there were many statements that different parts of the case, which seemed to him to be unanswerable, like the "Orton letter" of yesterday, could be fully disposed of. Besides this, he had the fortune and the position of life of an infant in his hands, and he was fearful of omitting anything that it might afterwards be said he ought to have referred to. On the one hand, he was afraid of omitting anything material; and on the other, he was afraid of wearying the jury to death.

LONDON POLICE COURTS.

"THE TICHBORNE TOE."—At Worship-street last Saturday, Henry Dupuis, thirty,

and Charlotte Hobbs, twenty-five, respectively dressed, were charged with having been drunk and creating a disturbance in the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton. Police-Constable 195 N deposed that on the previous night he was on duty in the Britannia Theatre, when he was called to the prisoners, who, with three other persons, were in the boxes creating a disturbance. They were singing, dancing, and shouting so as to disturb the whole of the audience and seriously to interfere with the performance. The female prisoner, in answer to the charge, said that she was very sorry and ashamed of herself, but had met with her friends and drank with them, which she was unused to. After that she went to the theatre with them, and there they got merry over the pantomime. In the scene where they were representing Roger Tichborne they laughed very much, because he had got an indiarubber toe, which they stretched all across the stage, and the Attorney-General called it pulling the long bow. The male prisoner said if they made any noise at all it was in laughing at the pantomime, and the policeman told them to be quiet, but they went on laughing, and the policeman got angry, as well off the stage as on the stage. The policeman off the stage took them into custody, and he was very sorry. The magistrate told the prisoners that when they went to a place of amusement, especially to see a pantomime, it was to be supposed that they would laugh, but not so as to disturb the rest of the audience—Roger Tichborne's indiarubber toe notwithstanding. He was glad to hear the woman say she was ashamed of herself, and should only fine her 2s. 6d. The man would pay 5s. The fines were paid.

A THIEF'S BENEFIT.—A "friendly lead" of thieves was described at the Southwark Police Court last Saturday. Mr. Galloway, the proprietor of the Duchy of Cornwall beer-house, Cornwall-road, Lambeth, was summoned before Mr. Benson, by direction of the Commissioners of Police, under the 34th and 35th Vic., cap. 112 (the new Act for the prevention of crime), for allowing convicted thieves to assemble in his house. Inspector Pencock, L division, said that in consequence of information he received he proceeded to the beer-house kept by the defendant, at half past nine in the evening of the 20th ult., with Inspector Whitney and Sergeant Letley. In a large room at the rear a "friendly lead" was being held, presided over by a young man called "Old Sojer." The room was full, and there were several convicted thieves among the company, who were assembled to collect money for a convicted thief (Frederick Parsons, alias Culley) who was in trouble. Cards had been distributed among the fraternity, and the chairman was receiving contributions. Witness called the defendant into the room, and pointed out the bad characters, besides telling him that the meeting was got up in his house to assist a convicted thief. The defendant said he did not think it wrong, as the man was in trouble and wanted help. Witness added that Fred Parsons had been twice convicted, and had been charged recently with horse-stealing. In answer to the summons, the defendant said he was asked to allow a meeting to take place at his club-room for a man in distress, and, not knowing that anything was wrong, he gave his consent. He did not know that any of them were thieves until told by the inspector. Mr. Benson, after looking at one of the cards convening the meeting on behalf of "Fred Brown, alias Culley," said he had no doubt defendant must have known that he had been tried and convicted of felony, and that the persons assembled were of the same class, collected together to assist him. The new Act for the Prevention of Crime was passed to put a stop to such meetings, and the defendant's license was liable to forfeiture. The magistrate had, however, a discretionary power in the first instance; but if the defendant offended again in the same way it would be compulsory on his part to take away his license. He called on him to find two sureties in £15 to keep the peace, and his house in a proper manner, for the next three months.

JUVENILE HOUSEBREAKERS.—Two incorrigible young scamps had a mischievous career cut short, at the same police court, last Saturday. Frederick Pottle, eleven, and James McCoy, ten, dirty-looking boys, were placed at the bar before Mr. Benson, for final examination, charged with breaking and entering the room of George Martin, at 12, Green-street, Blackfriars-road, and stealing therefrom a pair of spectacles, a quantity of food, &c., belonging to him. Police-Constable 49 M said that he had received information of the robbery, and apprehended McCoy in one of the lowest lodging-houses in the Mint. When told what he was charged with he said Pottle broke the lock of the door with the poker from his mother's room, and then they made up a large fire, and had a feast of bread and butter, and made sweetstuff of the sugar in the fryingpan. Afterwards they were so frightened that they ran away. Witness on the following day apprehended Pottle, when he said that McCoy broke open the door with the poker. Witness made inquiries, and found that the boy's mother was a widow, and went out to work every morning at eight. Pottle's father was a cabman, and at present out of employment. Mr. Benson accordingly committed them to the Surrey Industrial School at Byfleet until they each arrived at the age of sixteen.

AN UNNATURAL MOTHER.—Here's a little City story. It was revealed at the Guildhall on the 3rd inst. Ann Blake, fifteen, and Richard Blake, eight, who was sedentary and the he was obliged to be put in front of the dock that he might be seen, were charged before Alderman Finnis with begging in Moorgate-street. Frederick Lawley, 141, a police-constable, stated that the mother sent them out to beg, whereupon Susan Blake, the mother, was ordered into custody, and formally charged with sending her children out to beg. The mother denied that she sent the children out to beg, and said the officers were wrong in everything they had stated. Alderman Finnis said it was plain she lived on the children's begging, and that she was the real offender. He should send her to prison for fourteen days, and the children to the workhouse; and in the meantime the officers of the school board could be communicated with, for the mother was not fit to have the control of the children. Susan Blake was then removed to the City of London Union.

A ROW AT THE ARGYLL ROOMS.—At Marlborough-street Police Court, on Tuesday, a stirring scene of fast life, worthy of the Haymarket in its vilest days, was described, a gallant captain being the chief performer. Captain Tennison, 17th Foot, was charged before Mr. Newton with being drunk and disorderly, and with assaulting the police. A certificate was put in to the effect that one of the officers assaulted (Sergeant Peck) was so much injured as to be unable to attend. Police-Constable Winkler, C 162, said that while on duty in Windmill-street, on Monday night, a gentleman complained to him that he had been assaulted by the defendant at the Argyll Rooms. He advised the gentleman either to give his assailant into custody or to obtain his address. The defendant refused to give his address, and struck him a blow on the chest. Police-Sergeant Peck then came up and tried to detain the defendant, who became very violent, and pushed the constables about, being assisted by one of his friends. On the way to the station the defendant kicked him, and severely assaulted Sergeant Peck, throwing him down, putting his knee on his chest, and, as supposed, breaking one of his ribs. It required six constables to get him to the station, and when there he had to be held down. The magistrate said, as Sergeant Peck was not able to be present, there must be a remand. Captain Henry Fox Davis, Sackville-street, was next charged with attempting to rescue Captain Tennison. Police-Sergeant Watson, C 4, proved seeing the defendant rush towards Sergeant Peck, who had Captain Tennison in custody, and say, "You shall not take him." Afterwards he saw the defendant standing outside the station, and he then took him inside and charged him. Mr. Newton said the defendant would also be remanded. Three women charged with taking part in the riot were fined, one 60s., another 20s., and the third required to find small bail. On the application of Mr. Breton, Mr. Newton consented to take the defendants' own bail in £200 each, and two sureties in £100.

MURDERS.

THE brute in man has been developed largely enough of late. Witness a few proofs from provincial papers:

A miner, named Thomas Randle, murdered a fellow-workman, named George Johnson, on Sunday night, at Chapel End, North Warwickshire. The men quarrelled in a public-house, and, on renewing the fight outside, Randle stabbed Johnson to the heart.

Hiram Whately was brought before the magistrates at Rochdale, on Monday, charged with attempting to murder his wife and son on the 14th of last month. After hearing evidence, the Court committed the prisoner for trial on the charge of attempting to kill his wife, and remanded him on the charge relating to his son.

A miner, named Richard Porter, aged fifty-three, is in custody at Bilston, Staffordshire, charged with a murder perpetrated twenty-three years ago. His accuser is a collier named Teece, who states that he witnessed the commission of the crime.

The chief mate of the American ship Nunquam Dormio, which arrived at Newport on Sunday, was arrested on a charge of brutally ill-treating several of the crew. One man is said to have jumped overboard and been drowned after his skull had been fractured by the prisoner.

MURDER IN IRELAND.—A woman named Colvin, living near Bushmills, in the county of Antrim, has been murdered by her son, who had occasionally shown symptoms of madness. After cleaving her skull with a shovel, he returned to his bed and began to smoke.

BURGLAR OR "FOLLOWER?"—This was the question which seemed to agitate the mind of a Battersea householder on Tuesday, when he made the following charge at Wandsworth Police Court against one Robert Bartholomew and Edward Pitts.—Mr. Charles Hoelzer, an engineer, residing at 2, Church-terrace, Queen's-road, said that he was in bed, just going to sleep, when he heard a noise on the ground floor, and the striking of a match. He got up and called to the maid-servant, who was in the second floor, but he received no answer. He took up the poker and the candle and went out of his room, when he saw the prisoner Bartholomew on the staircase. He asked him what he wanted, but he made no answer. He went to take hold of him, when he knocked up his arm, and the candle fell, leaving them in darkness. Witness struck him with the poker. The prisoner escaped to the front door, where he caught hold of him. The servant then came down and claimed the prisoner as her friend. The prisoner spoke to Pitts, who was outside. Eliza Derwent, a respectable-attired young woman, said she was the servant. She left the garden-gate open for Bartholomew to come into the house. She had been out with him in the evening. It was arranged that he should come and visit her. It was not done with the intention of doing any wrong to the master. Pitts said he was passing at the time, and was asked to go for a constable. Bartholomew told the magistrate that he asked for a constable to be fetched, as the prosecutor was striking him on the head with the poker. Mr. Bridges discharged the prisoners, and told Bartholomew that he had done exceedingly wrong to go into a gentleman's house after the maid-servant.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, FEB. 2.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—R. H. PAGE, Bath, coach proprietor.

BANKRUPTS.—C. BAYMAN, Ivy-lane, City, bookbinders' tools—J. B. BILL, Notting-hill and Edgware-road, houses—F. FISHER, South Audley-street, wine merchant—F. PREBLE, Camberwell, builder—R. WESCHT, Central-street, St. Luke's, cheesemonger—J. COLLING, Ashton-under-Lyne, doctor of medicine—A. CRAVEN, Ryde, Isle of Wight, boarding-house keeper—T. DURRANT, Gorleston, fishing-boat owner—W. JOHN, St. Athan, miller—W. LINDSAY, Manchester, draper—H. MASON, Hendon, Herts, horse-dealer—A. RICHARDSON, Cirencester, ale merchant—C. A. WILTHAM, Bedlam, Kent, cellarman.

SOUTH REGISTRATIONS.—E. STARK, Kinross, merchant—J. STUART, Glasgow grocer—J. MUNRO, Edinburgh, lime merchant—J. MORRISON, Glasgow, restaurant-keeper.

TUESDAY, FEB. 6.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—J. GRIMES, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, late officer in the army.

BANKRUPTS.—J. H. BOTGOMLEY, Bradford, stuff-goods manufacturer—J. T. CHALMERS, Penzance, draper—M. and A. COTTAM, Manchester, confectioners—T. COTTON, Cheadle, Staffordshire, late farmer—J. HARDY, Plymouth, spirit merchant—G. SHATEWELL, Manchester, cowkeeper—T. F. WILLIAMS, Cheltenham, butcher—J. WILLINGTON, Stockport, clerk in holy orders.

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